



America expresses 'significant concern' as Iraqi troops mass on Saudi border

Bush says US will consider military action

By MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL EVANS IN LONDON

AS THOUSANDS of Iraqi troops in occupied Kuwait lined up on the Saudi Arabian border last night, President Bush alerted Nato allies that he would consider taking military action in the Gulf if the Iraqis invaded any other country in the region.

The troop movements towards Saudi Arabia, spotted by American reconnaissance satellites, were disclosed by Richard Boucher, of the US state department. He said the new development raised significant concern.

The threat of a military incursion across the border into Saudi Arabia could force President Bush's hand, leaving him no option but to take retaliatory military action, to try to safeguard the country's huge oil stocks, vital to the West.

Sources in Washington said that a number of contingencies had been discussed. New ship deployments to the Gulf were also announced yesterday.

As a sign of increasing alarm in the West over Iraq's military ambitions, two Royal Navy frigates were ordered immediately to the Gulf from Mombasa in Kenya and Penang in Malaysia, to join HMS York, a destroyer, and a supply ship, Orangerie, already in Dubai.

Apart from concern in Washington over stopping President Saddam Hussein's force of more than 100,000 men entering Saudi Arabia, there was growing fear over the safety of the 30,000 US citizens in the Gulf region. Mr Boucher's statement came as several sources said that the daily intelligence briefing which Mr Bush receives from his national security advisers focused on a possible Iraqi incursion into Saudi Arabia.

The Pentagon said the aircraft carrier, USS Saratoga, would leave next week for the Mediterranean. The Florida-based carrier is to relieve the USS Eisenhower, which has been on a routine deployment in the Mediterranean for six months. Although there was

no acknowledged link between the Saratoga's departure, which will involve 13,000 sailors and marines, and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, an official said it was possible the Eisenhower would not return to the US immediately. A battle group led by USS Independence, now in the Indian Ocean, is heading towards the Gulf.

Confirmation that Mr Bush was considering a military response to the Iraqis came in Brussels when a Nato official

on other pages



said: "The United States informed the allies (during a meeting of Nato's political committee) that it was aware that Iraq may have designs beyond Kuwait and informed them that it has drawn up contingency plans of action."

Another Nato official said: "The Americans want to make it clear to Iraq that they can go no further without risking a fight."

It was claimed that American public opinion backed US military action against Iraq, although the options available appeared to be limited. They included the possibility of an amphibious assault, using marines from seaborne expeditionary units, or flying airborne divisions from the US. However, it was emphasised that the American

forces would be outnumbered.

So far, there had been no request for military help from Saudi Arabia. Kuwait had originally appealed for military support from the West but yesterday appeared to be placing more reliance on diplomatic pressure to force the Iraqis to withdraw.

Mr Bush had a 30-minute telephone talk with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on Thursday night. Some members of the US Congress who attended briefings asked yesterday which of the allies would be prepared to commit military forces in the event of an attack on Saudi Arabia.

According to Pentagon officials, it would take at least 45 days to mobilise and deploy to the Middle East a force capable of confronting the Iraqis. Other Arab countries, principally Saudi Arabia, would first have to be prevailed on to make their military facilities available. "It would be a logistical nightmare. We have no infrastructure in the region," one senior US Army official said.

A Pentagon official said: "US military operations would cease every place in the world if we had to support any sizeable operation in Kuwait. The effort for directing a ground confrontation would be enormous."

The prospects of Washington mounting immediate retaliatory action were considered remote. It is assembling a significant naval force in the region - with 15 ships already there - but the aircraft carrier, USS Invincible, cannot enter the Gulf and its 80 fighter and attack aircraft would be operating at the limit of their range.

The two most immediate concerns in Washington were the fate of 14 US workers taken captive by the invading Iraqis - the US Embassy in Baghdad demanded to know where they had been taken - and the danger of the Iraqis moving into Saudi Arabia.

Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate armed forces committee, said he did not think the US had a military option "at the moment". But 81 per cent of Americans told a CNN survey that they would support US military intervention. "I believe our primary recourse should be to have intensive diplomatic activity," Mr Nunn said.

France said yesterday it would station two warships in the Gulf. A corvette or small gunboat, was already in the Gulf. Another would join it.

One other military option was under consideration: halting Iraqi oil sales by blockading the export routes - pipelines through Turkey and Saudi Arabia and shipments from the Gulf. But it was recognised that such an action would require a rare display of international political resolve.

One sour note was sounded by Greece which said that the two US military bases on the Greek island of Crete, in southeastern Mediterranean, could not be used for any military move by the Americans in the Gulf. But it was recognised that such an action would require a rare display of international political resolve.

The announcement, made at a meeting of senior NATO officials in Brussels to discuss Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, was the clearest indication yet that Washington might move from economic sanctions to military action against Iraq.

The prospect of wider military conflict in the Gulf has raised investors' fears of a disruption to oil supplies and further sharp price rises.

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SHARE prices fell sharply on

Wall Street yesterday, as news came of a sharp rise in unemployment and reports that the US is prepared to use force in the Gulf to counter further military action by Iraq.

By early afternoon in New York the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 102.97 points at 2,761.63 in active trading.

The Dow plunged almost 65 points at the start of trading on worse-than-expected unemployment figures, which confirmed fears that the US economy was heading towards recession.

The Federal Reserve Board is expected to lower interest rates in due course from the present rate of 8 per cent, but it may be worried about an early move through the inflationary impact of higher oil prices.

Unemployment rose in July from 5.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent, and non-farm employment fell by 57,000 compared with Wall Street expectations of a 120,000 increase. The figures follow earlier indications that the US economy was weak.

In London, the dollar fell half a penny to DM1.5929, but sterling closed up 0.3 in terms of the effective rate index at 94.2. The FTSE 100 index closed 19.9 down at 2,284.6.

A fresh wave of selling developed on Wall Street following reports that the US had told its NATO allies that it was prepared to take a tough stand in the Gulf.

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SECRETARY OF STATE James Baker, his Soviet counterpart, issued an unusual joint statement saying that Moscow had cut off arms supplies to Baghdad, and Washington had frozen Iraqi bank accounts. The statement demanded that other countries also stop sending arms to Iraq. Japan, West Germany, Britain and France in freezing Kuwait's assets to prevent Iraq gaining control of them.

TASS, in a criticism of a former Soviet ally that would previously have been unthinkable, called Baghdad "a permanent source of tension".

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secretary, said Britain would support sanctions. The cabinet met under Sir Geoffrey Howe to consider Britain's response. Mrs Thatcher was consulted by telephone in Colchester.

Mr Hurd said Britain would press for agreement on sanctions at a European Community meeting in Rome today. He hoped this would intensify pressure on the United Nations to adopt comprehensive sanctions.

Thomas Pickering, the US ambassador at the UN, said the Security Council was discussing economic and military sanctions which could be adopted within 24 hours.

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bargo on buying Iraqi oil was beginning to look likely.

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The council - Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates - is usually much more cautious. "The GCC condemns the Iraqi attack on its sister, Kuwait, and demands an unconditional and immediate withdrawal of its troops to their positions before August 1, 1990," it said.

The American plan under discussion at the UN is based on sanctions imposed against Rhodesia in 1967 and on the 1977 UN arms embargo against South Africa. Any UN action would be taken under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, which provides for sanctions and, in extreme cases, military force.

Iran softening, page 6

Invasion response shakes Wall St

By ANDREW MC EWEN AND ROBIN OAKLEY

IRAQ yesterday faced a tougher and more united world response to its aggression than it could have expected, improving the chances that diplomatic pressure might stop it threatening Saudi Arabia.

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Tough world response may influence Saddam

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Senior police may get extra pay to reward experience

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S senior police officers may receive extra money, as a reward for experience and the responsibility of their positions, under police pay proposals being considered by David Waddington, the home secretary.

The general proposals, based on formulae drawn from national pay trends from May 1989 to May 1990, would give all ranks a basic 9.75 per cent pay increase from September. Senior officers from assistant chief constable and above could also be eligible for an additional 2.5 per cent increase. The rise is the largest the police have

received since 1982, and is almost certain to be accepted by the home secretary.

It would raise the pay of a new constable from £9,900 a year to £10,866 a year and, at the other end of the scale, take the pay of a chief superintendent from a basic £31,131 to £34,167. In London, officers also get allowances worth another £2,100.

At the top of the tree, the salary of a chief constable, with a force covering a population of up to 400,000, would rise from £43,749 to £48,000, while the man in charge of a large urban force

could expect to see his salary go from £55,608 to £61,029 under the plan. The annual salary of the chief constable of the RUC would rise to £68,925 from £62,802. The proposals also suggest a long service increment for officers at the rank of assistant chief constable or above. If they have held their current ranks for three years or more, they would get an additional 2.5 per cent in a scheme starting in August 1991.

If the home secretary accepts the proposal, worth more than £1,000 a year to the most senior provincial chief constables, it will be a victory for the Association of Chief Police Officers. The increment was first floated two years ago as part of a package which was eventually watered down by Douglas Hurd, the then home secretary, much to the anger of senior police.

They have argued that their pay has slipped back, compared with pay awards to other public service managers.

Police claim extra pay is needed to encourage talented officers to make the attempt to reach top command, and want extra cash to cover the demands of the job.

The proposal has been framed to avoid putting a large burden on the pay bill for 1989/90 and covers only a percentage of officers, but comes at a time when police performance and finances are under considerable examination. There are already forecasts from senior officers that, within a few years, the top ranks may be working with short-term contracts.

• Policewomen in the West Midlands are being offered up to five years' maternity leave to counter the loss of experienced and trained officers as a result of pregnancy. The force is also promising that those who return to work within three years will keep the rank they had reached.

Mrs Mills, who was not available for comment yesterday, once said in an interview that no one could say that having children had held her career back. "I've made my business to put in 105 per cent of effort in this respect. I've hacked out an unusual role, and I think I may have contributed to a change in attitude."

Her husband, John, is a former deputy Labour leader of Camden council, and former deputy chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation.



Barbara Mills: hacked out an unusual role

£2.3m for orphaned daughter

A YOUNG woman received £2.3 million yesterday from her father's will, four months after her family died in an aircraft crash.

Sarah Lilley's father Norman, aged 45, a self-made millionaire, her mother Susan, aged 44, brother Mark, aged 24, and his fiancée Marie Wilson were all killed after their aircraft broke up in mid-air over Bayeux, Normandy, as the party flew back to their home at Ampleforth, North Yorkshire, from the family villa in Spain.

Geoff Greer, a family friend for more than 20 years, said yesterday: "The crash came a few weeks before the family were to have a double celebration for Sarah's 21st birthday and Norman and Susan's silver wedding anniversary. She told me she is back working as a mobile hairdresser, which is good news."

• The £1,571,282 record damages awarded in the High Court last week to John Lambert, a former airline pilot who was paralysed in a motorcycle accident, is to be challenged in the Court of Appeal.

A spokesman for the insurers of Devon county council, the highway authority responsible for the road where the accident happened nine years ago, said it would also appeal against the refusal of Judge Black, QC, to allow it to contest the claim on liability.

EC laws could cost £1 bn in banned advertising

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

LEGISLATION being drafted in Brussels restricting advertising of alcohol, tobacco, food, pharmaceuticals and even children's toys in the European Community has come under attack by the Advertising Association, Britain's industry trade body.

Advertising revenue in the UK alone could fall by more than £1 billion if directives banning tobacco advertising and severely restricting alcohol and pharmaceutical advertising are adopted, the association said yesterday.

The Advertising Association said that there was "a real and imminent danger" that the EC would adopt the most restrictive of national regulations throughout the Community, such as the Greek ban on advertising of toys on television or France's ban on television advertising of alcohol. It fears the EC will also restrict all alcohol advertising in the press.

In a study published yesterday, *A Freedom Under Threat? - Advertising in the EC*, the association warned that £800 million worth of alcohol advertising revenue was at risk. Another £200 million would be lost if the EC implements a ban restricting press and poster advertising of tobacco products. MEPs across the Community have already proposed a complete ban on tobacco advertising, including a ban on sponsor-

ship. Italy and Portugal have already instituted such a ban and France, Belgium and Spain are to follow suit by the end of this year.

Another directive would stop food manufacturers claiming their products have nutritive value. Claims which cannot be substantiated

claims that everyday foods cannot supply adequate nutrition, claims that "knock-off" foods, and claims that a foodstuff has acquired extra nutritive value from additives will be illegal. "It will stop us from telling consumers why our products are good for them," the study said.

Richard Wade, director general of the Advertising Association, said: "To deny consumers advertising that is decent, honest and truthful is denying the basic right to inform. If detailed legislation stifles the ability of companies to market their wares freely, the EC institutions could justifiably be accused of erecting barriers to market entry, hardening monopoly positions where

they exist, discouraging product innovation and stagnating market shares — in other words, of enhancing all the negative qualities of the original fragmented European market."

The study, which exhorts all UK advertisers to lobby their MPs and MEPs to reject the EC proposals, said: "Each new law or ban encourages others. If we don't challenge some of the proposals coming out we will both ourselves and the industry."

• Saatchi & Saatchi has forecast that Spain will overtake France as the fifth biggest advertising spender in the world by 1992. The Saatchi study also forecast that expenditure on advertising throughout Europe will have grown to £38.4 billion a year — £13.5 billion more than was spent last year. By 2001, the European advertising market will be larger than the US market, if European expenditure continues to grow at 11 per cent a year. The US maintains its sluggish five per cent rate.

Clifford Longley, page 10
out a Co-op Bank cheque from his brother's account.

Peter De Mille, for the defence, said that Larbe had been planning to buy £200 worth of shares with holiday money he was owed by his employer. When that money was not paid, out of a sense of frustration and "for the hell of it", he had applied for £1 million of shares, using a cheque of his brother's from an account that had been closed.

"It is astonishing that a cheque on a personal account for £1 million sent by him in a name that does not appear on that cheque should have been accepted and that the shares should have been issued. And perhaps even more so, that the refund for £900,000 should have been sent to him before the cheque had been cleared," Mr De Mille said.

Mr Davies said that Larbe received the documents he took them to Barclays Bank in Wolverhampton and tried to sell the shares and cash the cheque. A bank official became suspicious and made further enquiries, which revealed that Larbe had just £6 in his Barclays account. Police were alerted and the teenager was arrested.

The application was processed by the NatWest Bank and forwarded to Lloyds Bank for completion. This particular share issue was over-subscribed, so all the share applications were scaled down. The defendant's share application was scaled down to £100,000 of shares and a share certificate was sent to his address together with a refund cheque for £900,000," he said.

Three days after the cheque and certificate arrived, Larbe took them to Barclays Bank in Wolverhampton where he had an account containing just £6. "Even at that stage he wasn't wholly making the bank to honour the documents that would have given him £1 million in cash," he added.



Malik Larbe: wrote out cheque for £1 million



Up, up and away: Pilots competing in the world hot-air airship championships manoeuvring sedately but with precision at 12mph yesterday round Hardwick village church in the grounds of Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire

Vicars back Carey over assessments

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

NEARLY all Church of England clergymen believe that they should be assessed regularly and most believe they should be removed from office if they are substandard, according to a diocesan survey published yesterday.

Nearly half said stipends were too low to meet the needs of parochial clergy. Clergy in Chelmsford earn about £300 above the national minimum of £10,500, but more than a third said stipends were too low to encourage enough people to join the ministry.

The results are in line with the views of Dr George Carey, Archishop of Canterbury designate, who has said that vicars and other incumbents should have regular competency tests. Most of the 200 clergy responding to the survey, in the diocese of Chelmsford, said they were inadequately supervised. Nine out of ten called for regular assessments and safeguards they would have as employees.

Canon John Williams, team rector at Forest Gate and a former chairman of the House of Clergy in the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod, said vicars wanted to be "more normal and treated like other people".

"I thought it was rather good for 62 per cent of the clergy to be happy to be fired if they did not come up to scratch, although many made the point that help should be offered first. This gives a different view of the clergy to the one many people have had in the past. The church is changing and that is reflected in the appointment of Dr Carey. He is a man who is close to the grass roots."

He said many argued that pay should not be important in a vocational career, but one clergyman questioned whether there was an "essential link between vocation and poverty". Others said that they did not mind poverty but felt their families should not be forced to suffer too.

Canon Williams said: "A neighbour of mine has just been to Dorset in a tent. A camping holiday was all he could afford. Many clergy would like to feel they had enough money to buy a retirement home and pay off a mortgage while they are forced to suffer too."

Canon Williams' memory with a series of public lectures and a formal dinner earlier this year.

• A leading religious publishing company, Darton, Longman and Todd, is now owned by its staff. The company's founder, Michael Longman, who died in 1978, left his majority shareholding to the company with instructions for a move to common ownership.

Cardinal's Oxford dream is realised

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A HUNDRED years after his death, one of the dearest hopes of Cardinal John Henry Newman is to be realised with the foundation in Oxford of a Roman Catholic oratory as a centre of prayer and study (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Newman, a fellow of Oriel College, was one of the founders of the Oxford Movement that sought to revive Christian tradition and ritual in Anglicanism. The movement, sometimes called the Tractarians, marked the start of the Anglo-Catholic party in the Church of England.

After Newman's conversion to Rome he avoided the city in which he had spent many years as an Anglican priest, but he always hoped to open a religious house there similar to his oratory at Birmingham and to the Brontë Oratory in London. His wishes were frustrated by members of the English Catholic hierarchy who opposed the idea of Roman Catholics being educated at Oxford.

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Industrial advisers to be recruited for schools

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

SENIOR industrialists from some of Britain's major companies are being recruited by John MacGregor, the education secretary, to set the standards for schools this decade.

Mr MacGregor is expected to announce early next week significant changes to two of the government's most important advisory bodies, the National Curriculum Council (NCC) and the Schools Examination and Assessment Council (Seac). The education secretary believes that the two councils have been weighted in favour of the education establishment, with most members coming from universities and local education authorities.

Mr MacGregor has said that Britain will only be able to hold its own in the single European market if it has a highly-trained workforce. He has now concluded that this can only be achieved if industry has a voice in what children are taught.

A department of education insider said: "He believes the schools must be given a clearer idea of what the needs of industry are and then provide the school-leavers they need. These appointments are one way of helping to achieve this."

The members of the two councils serve for between one and three years. The appointments will be seen as an answer to his right-wing Conservative critics who claimed that he has gone soft on the reforms introduced by Kenneth Baker, his predecessor.

£1m credit card fraud warning

Credit card holders and shopkeepers were warned yesterday of a £1 million scam involving more than 2,000 unsigned Access and Visa cards. The cards were found in two mailbags raiding the London to Exeter train, in which bags bound for Exeter from Access and Visa at Brighton were snatched.

The police did not know how many cards were missing, and most have not appeared on the blacklist of stolen cards because they have yet to be reported. Detectives want cardholders in Devon who have not received replacement cards in June to report the fact to their banks.

All the cards were with details of their credit limits, and it is feared they may include some "no limit" gold cards. A major fraud enquiry is now under way.

Driver impaled

A lorry driver was killed yesterday when he was impaled on a metal tube. The man aged 45 was sitting in his cab at Dudley Tube, Bilton, West Midlands, when a load of steel tubing slipped as it was hoisted on to his wagon. West Midlands police said a length of tubing crashed through the rear of the cab and speared him through the back, killing him instantly. He has not been named.

A priest from the Birmingham Oratory has been invited to take charge of the parish of St Alloysius, Oxford, and to start the oratory in the large house attached to the church. The Birmingham fathers will send two priests and a student to Oxford from September. The Most Rev Maurice Couve de Murville, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham, invited the fathers to send priests to St Alloysius 100 years after the death of Cardinal Newman on August 11 1890. Oxford University honoured Newman's memory with a series of public lectures and a formal dinner earlier this year.

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Relief from the heat: young swimmers keeping cool in the river Cam at Cambridge yesterday. Elsewhere in the country an ice-making machine overheated and a life-sized waxwork knight melted into a puddle

Beat the heat tips to drivers as fire warnings go out

By KEREN DAVID

BRITAIN was inundated with heatwave advice yesterday for every activity from dish-washing to driving.

The dangers of swimming in hot weather were highlighted as police floggers searched for a man aged 22 who drowned in a flooded open-cast coalmine at West Hallam, Derbyshire. The man, from Ilkeston, Derbyshire, was believed to have suffered cramps. A holiday-maker died of a suspected heart attack at Widemouth Bay, Cornwall, after helping children in trouble in the sea.

Ramblers were warned of the risks of starting fires in tinderbox conditions. Firemen in Surrey, Hampshire and Gwent fought woodland blazes which swept across dry land.

The Luton district council appealed to people to "Share your bath with a tree" by throwing used water on to the roots of parched plants. A

similar appeal for dishwashing water went out at Windsor, where the castle gardens have shrivelled.

The RAC issued warnings of "homicidal tendencies" afflicting motorists trapped in stifling traffic jams, and gave a ten-point list of guidelines including the use of old towels as window shades and the magic words "Be Patient".

Problems in store for motorway drivers this weekend could range from melting roads to roadside fires caused by discarded cigarette stubs, the AA said. At Heathrow airport one of the main runways was shut for several hours as newly laid tarmac failed to set.

Weaver fish bearing poisonous spikes lurked off the coast of west Wales' coastguards said. Poisonous blue-green algae contaminated a lake near Reading. There were several contenders for the day's most revolting story. The red,

long worms that invaded a children's paddling pool near Cleethorpes turned out to be harmless midge larvae. The entire stock of a Liverpool chocolate shop melted.

There was hot competition for the nation's most enviable job. A frontrunner was Colin Howard, who bought a thermal smock yesterday to wear for work in the freezer room at Walls' ice-cream factory in Gloucester. Staff at Pifco's quality control department in Manchester, who are paid to test electric fans, were happy in their work. Workers at Perivale Ice in west London said people did not realise how hard it was to produce tonnes of ice a day. Andrew Coughlan, the manager said:

"We are sold out and our machines have overheated."

Staff at Fortnum and Mason's store in Piccadilly, central London, may feel a little hot under the collar after being told that they cannot shed their traditional black frock coats today. Coventry police were ordered to put their ties back on after an outbreak of open collars, and shorts were banned for taxi drivers in Worcester. However, at Goodwood's Richmond enclosure strict dress regulations were relaxed to allow male racegoers to remove their jackets.

The heatwave uncovered some strange sights: a cache of stolen antique weapons was found at Eton when the Thames' level dropped by several inches and a passer-by saw gun barrels. At Stansted Mountfitchet castle in Essex, a life-sized waxwork knight

melted into a puddle.

Firemen called to a fire in Buckley, Clwyd, were amazed to find smoke pouring from Bob Williams's electric blanket. "I just hate getting into a cold bed and use the blanket to warm the bed all year round," he said.

The heatwave was cleared of responsibility for stopping the clock of Big Ben which has been refusing to pass 5 o'clock for the past three days. Engineers yesterday pinpointed the fault as a rogue bearing and worked through the day, on the troubled eastern face of the clock after it had stopped three times in 36 hours, each time about 5.15.

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memories of his native California

Friendliness glows amid loosened ties

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

FOR the first time in 25 years, Professor Cary Cooper wore shorts to his university office yesterday. The heatwave had stirred memories of his native California and prompted the thought that leisure wear might be good for British business.

The heat of the moment offered new insights into human behaviour, with psychologists predicting symptoms ranging from fatigue and frustration to an excess of friendliness. Professor Cooper is head of organisational psychology at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology and a leading authority on stress in the workplace. "Hot weather encourages us to dress more informally for work, and that in turn may help us conduct our business in a more informal way," he said.

Loosening the old school tie or, better still, taking it off, could prevent executives getting too hot under the collar and make them friendlier towards their colleagues and business contacts, he said. "There should be more flexible results from a more relaxed attitude. Companies should be more flexible when there is a long hot spell. They could encourage people to come to work much earlier in the morning, when it's cool, and leave sooner."

Better still, they could tell some of their staff to stay at home and work from there. It's a lot more pleasant to make your business calls from a deckchair in the garden than from behind your desk. Productivity might suffer, but in heat like this, it is going to suffer anyway."

With fewer people going to work, trains, buses and motorways would be less crowded, making commuting quicker and less stressful, he said. The heat was likely to provoke anger, aggression and frustration among drivers stuck in jams, but Professor Cooper doubted the view, expressed by the RAC yesterday, that it could trigger violence in some motorists.

Peter Cook, the RAC's rescue services manager, said: "Traffic delays in stifling conditions can lead to homicidal tendencies. It is important to avoid both car and driver boiling over."

Heatwaves provoke violent outbreaks in New York and Washington, but John Bonn,

professor of psychological medicine at City University, London, said: "If conditions like these, I would expect lethargy and fatigue to be more common than aggression. There is no doubt that excessive heat can lead to physiological stress, but there is little evidence of its psychological effects in this country."

The police in New York dread the summer because they know it correlates with an increase in violent crime, but there are many factors which make a similar trend unlikely in this country."



Cooper: memories of his native California

Staggering the great August exodus keeps hotlines open

FOR the next three weeks the chances of finding the right civil servant, local authority official or even business contact at the end of a telephone line will be slightly less remote than is usual when Europe makes the most of the dog days of August and bask in the sun.

For the first time in the 200 years since the industrial revolution set the working habits of millions, there are signs that more people are prepared, or even ordered, to work through the summer heat. A combination of crowded roads and resorts, economic decline and the move from heavy industrial production to largely service-based economies has led some countries within the EC to encourage a greater spread of the holiday season.

In Britain, this is happening almost by default. Last year, for example, only 22 per cent of long holidays began in August compared with 26 per cent ten years earlier. At the same time, according to a survey by the English Tourist Board, the number of holidays taken outside the main four summer months rose from 17 per cent to 22 per cent. It is a trend that is expected to continue and the British Tourist Authority is pressing for further staggering of the season.

Other factors are playing an increasing role in changing the shape of the British summer holiday. "Until five years ago a three-week long holiday was the norm, whereas today it is five," the Institute of Directors says. "This has allowed far greater flexibility for people to choose to

Scientists claim tidal waves may hit Britain

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S northeastern coastline is threatened by waves capable of devastating coastal towns and cities, three scientists have claimed. Geological studies indicate that submarine landslides have occurred in the Norwegian Sea, causing tidal waves to crash south on to the British coast, submerging ancient communities and ploughing large tracts of land under floods up to 20 metres deep.

The geologists, David Smith and Alastair Lawson, of Coventry Polytechnic, and David Long, of the marine geological unit of the British Geological Survey, undertook their research as part of the European Commission's Climatology Programme. Their findings have been published in the magazine *New Scientist*.

They believe that the unstable natural forces that cause the tsunami waves are still active in the region, and that global warming and a rise in sea levels would make the arrival of tsunami waves even more calamitous for life, buildings and land. Plans for nuclear power stations and nuclear waste sites should take the threat into account, they say.

Scientists have long been puzzled by unusual layers of sand found along the northern and eastern coastline of Scotland. The British researchers believe that the clue to their formation may lie in evidence of huge ocean bed landslides, called Storegga slides, at the southern tip of the Norwegian Sea, recently discovered by scientists at the Continental Institute in Trondheim, Norway. These landslides may have been triggered by earthquakes.

"We believe that the similarity in age between the second Storegga slide and the unusual sand layer of eastern Scotland is more than a coincidence. It seems likely that the second slide caused a tsunami wave that threw up the sand on to a wide area of the coast of northern Britain. A tsunami in the North Sea is not merely a historical curiosity. It could well happen again," the scientists say.

Unstable deposits that slip after an earthquake and cause the formation of huge waves in the ocean are still evident on many areas of northwest Europe's sea floor. Since 1983 three of northwest Europe's strongest earthquakes have been within 100 kilometres of the Storegga area.

Measure for measure in the nervous nineties

By BILL BURROUGHS

WHENEVER the temperature rises above 90°F (32.2°C) in Britain, we reach for the record books to see how current extremes compare with those of the past. It is hard to accept that such heat is not that exceptional in southern England. What is odder is that we take for granted figures about it being well over 100°F in the sun. We make far less fuss when we are given exaggerated figures about the heat in sporting arenas such as Wimbledon and Lord's than we do over apparently much lower shade temperatures.

This confusion arises from the fact that, out in the open, the observed temperature depends on how efficiently the thermometer and its surroundings absorb the sun's rays. It is common knowledge that on a summer's day the asphalt-paved, concrete-lined canyons of big cities are far hotter than the surrounding countryside. This, however, tells us more about the locality than it does about the weather.

It is for this reason that meteorologists place rigorous standards on measuring the shade temperature. Ideally, it should be taken in a well-ventilated specially designed shelter over open-mown grass. This is the most accurate measure of how extreme the weather is, as it effectively provides a figure for the lowest shade temperature normally found out in the open.

In England the highest possible shade temperature is probably about 100°F (38.2°C). The perfect conditions for this are when the country is covered by a static anti-cyclone which wafts hot dry air from the Continent. When combined with a dry spell so little heat is wasted on evaporating surface moisture that the mercury readily soars into the 90s in July or August.

The oft-quoted 100.5° (38.5°C) all-time British high, observed at Tunbridge Wells on July 22, 1868, is regarded with suspicion. It was recorded in the fore-runner of modern instrument shelters and hence was more susceptible to some direct heating from the sun. It is generally accepted that the hottest day for which reliable records are available was August 9, 1911, when several places recorded



High noon: office workers enjoying a splash in the fountain in Trafalgar Square in London

ANDREW BOURNE

THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE SUNDAY

Bradford discovers new wealth as unlikely tourist destination

The government is setting up a task force to come up with methods for easing the burden on Britain's most popular tourist destinations, partly by spreading the load around less popular towns and cities that will be encouraged to develop their potential. PETER DAVENPORT visited Bradford, an unlikely contender that has taken the holiday market by surprise.

EVEN the dead have their part to play in Bradford's tourism initiative. Undercliffe Cemetery, sprawling over 25 acres of hillside on the eastern approaches to the city, is the final resting place of many a Victorian wool baron who made sure of lasting recognition by having a towering stone monument erected over their grave.

For decades the cemetery lay neglected, overgrown with weeds and with the tombstones, soaring Celtic crosses, obelisks and even a grey granite mausoleum in the form of an Egyptian temple, a

regular target for vandals. Three years ago it was the subject of an environmental improvement project and now attracts thousands of visitors a year. It also picked up an award in the BBC's *It's My City* series.

Undercliffe Cemetery is just one of the attractions that were marketed by Bradford city council in a determined drive to create a tourist industry, almost from scratch, over the past 10 years. The range is diverse from a museum dedicated to the glove puppet Sooty, who made his first

public appearance in Bradford, to the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, attracting 300,000 visitors a year, and the Bronte Parsonage at Haworth, the destination for 200,000 tourists, including such a large number of Japanese that two members of staff at the local tourist information office have had to learn the language.

Just ten years after Bradford entered the UK holiday market, to almost universal mirth, even among its own citizens, it has an industry that generates £56.4 million a year and attracts about six million visitors from throughout the UK and, increasingly, from abroad. At least 7,000 jobs depend directly on tourism.

There have been important other benefits too. Mike Cowlam, marketing manager of Bradford's enterprise unit, which replaced

the economic development unit that launched the tourism initiative, said that one of the reasons behind the original programme was to improve the appalling image the city then had as a means of attracting new industry and investment.

The council pulls no punches on the scale of the task. It says: "In 1980 people's idea of Bradford was a place where the sparrows woke up coughing and pigeons flew backwards to keep the dirt out of their eyes. Turning the district into a major tourist destination was not going to be an easy task. The aim was not only to launch Bradford's tourist trade, bringing new spending into the city, but also to boost investment and job creation by persuading investors that Bradford was the place to be." The first step in the programme was to undertake an

honest assessment of the attractions the city and surrounding district had to offer, including a rich industrial heritage and fine Victorian buildings, proximity to the Yorkshire Dales and moors and hotels almost empty at the weekends when business travellers had left.

It was clear from the start that Bradford could not compete with such well-established tourist centres as Chester and York so it launched two short-break holidays – In the Footsteps of the Bronte and Industrial Heritage. The novelty of Bradford entering the holiday market generated widespread publicity and in the first year 2,000 holidays were sold and the city has never looked back.

Mr Cowlam says that Bradford was the first authority to set up its own economic development unit and the first industrial city to

launch a tourism strategy as part of its regeneration programme. To keep ahead of the game, as more towns and cities sought to follow its lead, Bradford has regularly introduced new attractions.

To spread the benefits of tourism across the widest possible range of its citizens, Bradford launched a *Flavours of Asia* package, explaining the origins of the city's large Asian community, their religious beliefs and offering a selection of Asian restaurants to be sampled. It proved the most successful promotion in increasing trade and creating new jobs.

As the demand has grown so have the resources: between 1983 and 1989 the number of hotels increased from 12 to 31, restaurants from 36 to 132, conference venues from eight to 26, museums and attractions from 23 to 61, with the Victorian & Albert

Museum set to establish a northern arm in the conversion of a mill complex. A side-product has been the growth in mill shops, from none in 1983 to 46 last year, where visitors can obtain bargains, such as cashmere and angora cloths, at prices vastly cheaper than in high street shops. They are especially popular with people from Scandinavia and the US.

Mr Cowlam says that the tourism strategy and its creation of a better image for Bradford has been a significant contribution towards the city's revived fortunes. By the end of last year committed and planned investment stood at £1 billion, the highest level since its Victorian heyday. "I am sure there are lessons to be learned here for creating other new destinations for tourists. Certainly nobody knows any more at the idea of holidays based in Bradford."

World health body forced to cut back Aids programme

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) is cutting its multi-million pound budget on Aids and is to have its international programme to fight the disease re-evaluated by independent experts.

The moves are the result of pressure from some countries, including Britain, which fund the organisation's Global Programme on Aids and which believe it has been expanded too rapidly since its launch four years ago. The health organisation now believes that up to 10 million people worldwide are infected with the Aids virus, but support for the Aids programme appears to have been damaged by scepticism over that estimate in countries where the epidemic is growing more slowly.

Britain, the third largest donor to the global programme, has limited its donations through the government's Overseas Development Administration to £4.5 million a year since 1988, and the programme's budget is now being reduced by about £10 million to just under £50 million. Many of the health education and Aids prevention projects set up in 123 countries will be re-examined independently.

Doubts have arisen about the priority given to some projects and the efficiency with which they have been established, but there is no suggestion of misconduct. Stricter management controls of the global programme have been imposed at the Geneva headquarters of the health organisation since Jonathan Mann, the founder and director of the programme, resigned in March over disagreements on policy with Hiroshi Nakajima, the director general.

Dr Mann launched the programme in a small office four

years ago. It now has a staff of almost 200 and the biggest budget of any health organisation project. Dr Mann visited most of the 150 countries affected by the disease and encouraged them to set up schemes to screen blood, improve health care and start sex education campaigns. Latterly he complained that Dr Nakajima had blocked many of his initiatives and downgraded the importance of Aids prevention.

"Dr Mann was an excellent ambassador for the programme, but he wasn't a good manager," Hans Moerkirk, a member of the management committee for the global programme, said yesterday. "The programme has done wonderful work, but it is now time to stabilise it and make sure that the quality of the work remains high."

Karl Olaf Wathne, Norway's representative on the committee, said: "It has taken too long to establish an efficient programme. In some developing countries there are problems in getting resources out of the capital and into the regions where help is most needed. The epidemic is so serious that we cannot afford quarrels or inefficiency."

Dr Mann had hoped, before he resigned, that the Aids project would be allocated a budget of £59.4 million this year. Instead it will be £49 million, and most donor countries are reluctant to pledge more than a 5 per cent increase for next year.

Dr Moerkirk said the donor

countries were arranging an external evaluation of the programme that would start in September and take six months. The evaluators will report to the management committee of the global programme next March.

The donors intend to trans-

Student architects profit from prince

By CHARLES KNEVITT, ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

STUDENTS from nine countries, including Czechoslovakia and East Germany, will learn to practise what the Prince of Wales preaches on architecture when they start a course at Magdalen College, Oxford, today.

The Prince of Wales's summer school in civil architecture will be formally opened by the prince, its founder, tomorrow. The 24 students will take classes in drawing and sketching, ornament, lettering, carving, and public consultation on design, and visit a stonemason's yard.

Practical work will include a project to design an infill building in an historic setting, and motorway design. Teachers will include architects, engineers, planners, graphic designers, builders, painters, craftsmen and historians.

The students, men and women aged between 20 and 40, were selected from 203 applicants. They come from New Zealand, Canada, Italy, Greece, the United States and the UK. Two thirds have scholarships to help with the £1,000 costs.

Later this month the school will transfer to the British School at Rome, and then move about 50 miles north to the Villa Lante, near Viterbo, which has been made available by the Italian government. The school is intended to be held annually and has been organised without involving the Royal Institute of British Architects, which recognises 36 schools of architecture in this country.

The prince, in his book *A Vision of Britain*, published last autumn, said that architectural education needed to be radically overhauled. Jules Lubbock, director of studies, said: "The prince wants the summer school to encourage a reverence for our natural surroundings, resulting in buildings which contrib-

ute to the well-being of those who use them, and which display respect – or show 'good manners' – toward the buildings and landscapes among which they take their place.

"The prince spent two years

exploring the questions of

architectural education in

Britain and found that many

people who share his enthu-

siasm are doing something to

meet the need for architectural

education based on these prin-

ciples, which is how the idea of

the summer school came about."

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Parnes was terrified over cover-up threat, QC says

ANTHONY Parnes, the stockbroker, was left terrified of the punishment that could be handed out by a rich and powerful businessman after a Whitehall investigation was launched into the Guinness deal, it was claimed yesterday.

Ephraim Margulies, the former chairman of the sugar and foods group S and W Berisford, threatened to alter documents to show that Mr Parnes received £1.4 million of the success fee unless he agreed to a cover-up. Trade department inspectors were appointed to investigate the bid in December 1986. Mr Margulies made his threat on December 10.

Mr Parnes, aged 45, Ernest Saunders, aged 55, former chairman of Guinness, Gerald Ronson, aged 50, head of Heron International, and Sir Jack Lyons, aged 74, a financier, deny 24 counts including theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Nicholls told the jury: "Tony Parnes was out of the frying pan and into the fire." He said that Olivier Roux, Mr Parnes' friend and former Guinness finance director, who was given immunity from prosecution to give evi-

dence for the Crown, agreed with Mr Margulies that backdated invoices could be used to show that Cifco undertook market research abroad to justify the payment, to protect the broker.

"From December 10, Mr Parnes had the terrifying prospect of either going along with a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice or ending up who knows where as a punishment for crossing a rich and powerful businessman like Ephraim Margulies." Mr Nicholls said the inspectors believed Mr Parnes was genuinely frightened.

Mr Nicholls appealed to the jury not to compare the £3.35 million fee paid to Mr Parnes to the sort of salaries they or their friends may earn.

The payment was justified in terms of the size of the bid and Mr Parnes' undercover intelligence of the stock market.

The trial continues on Monday.

Parents want better service for children

By ROBIN YOUNG

BRITISH parents want their children to get better service in hotels and restaurants, according to a survey published today. The advertising agency WFS Dialogue, which commissioned the survey, claims that the number of "more sophisticated, well-off parents", SWOPS in the agency's jargon, who want to eat out with their children is growing.

Alastair Waldron, managing director of the agency, said yesterday that too often the only option offered was a meal of a burger and chips and a staff attitude that all children should be treated as if they were five years old or less.

"The promise of UK establishments which specialise in catering to families is not reflected in their practice. It is no good if the whole thing is just a marketing exercise and let down by poorly trained staff. Children should be treated as customers in their

own right," he said. Foreign travel had led families to expect more. "In France, children are seen as an opportunity, not a problem."

Children should be able to choose between hamburgers and freshly cooked home-style English food, and smaller children's portions from the adult menu would introduce more adventurous and healthy food, the survey says. Staff should be friendly and helpful to children, parking easier, parents should know in advance how much a meal will cost them, and high chairs should be provided if needed, the survey says.

Although weekend breaks are becoming ever more popular in the UK holiday market, families complained that it was difficult to identify hotels where children would be welcome, and to get an accurate idea of the likely cost of a family weekend.

Murder charge

Kevin Roy Jerrett, a labourer aged 20, appeared before magistrates in Plymouth, Devon, charged with the murder of a boy aged 14 months. He was remanded in custody.

Accident verdict

A verdict of accidental death was returned yesterday on Chris Peace, of Llanedeyrn, Cardiff. South Glamorgan, who died after being hit by a speeding police car as he walked home on New Year's Day. His family is to claim against the police.

£2m to survivor

A property developer, Norman Lilley, his wife Susan and their son Mark, aged 21, of Ampleforth, Yorkshire, who were killed in a flying accident in France at Easter, left £2,204,909 net before tax to a daughter, Sarah, aged 20.

Footpath and bridleways

It is, in any case, due to be bisected by the planned A34 bypass.

He makes no secret of the fact that the proposed village would help to pay for the restoration and upkeep of his home, Domington Grove, listed Grade II*, and Mr Gladstone has undertaken to spend at least £250,000 on the house if the project is approved. Rather than sell the land to a developer, he has secured an undertaking from an insurance company to finance the building of the village.

"Five years ago I would never have dreamt of making such an application," he says. "But two things have changed. One is that the land is not needed for agriculture any more. The other is that we now have a new generation of good architects in whom I feel confidence and who can build places where people want to live."

Leading article, page 11

Patten weighs up arguments over a new 'traditional' village

By JOHN YOUNG

CHRIS Patten, the environment secretary, is expected to decide within the next few days whether to allow a village to be built in open countryside near Newbury, in Berkshire.

The project has attracted wide interest, partly because the owner of the land, James Gladstone, has commissioned the "classical" architect John Simpson to design the village in traditional style (left). Mr Simpson's plans for the redevelopment of Paternoster Square, close to St Paul's Cathedral, have won the support of the Prince of Wales.

There is, however, the question of whether Mr Patten is prepared to override the Berkshire county structure plan, which, like all other similar plans in England and Wales with the exception of Cambridgeshire, insists that all new development should be within or on the outskirts of existing towns and villages.

The plans for the village of Upper Donnington were rejected by Newbury district council last year. They were subsequently presented at a two-week public enquiry in October, at which they were opposed by the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Since then a local pressure group, Save Planning in the South East, has urged Berkshire MPs to bring pressure on Mr Patten to turn down the scheme.

The pressure group was formed four years ago to oppose the construction of about 300 houses and flats, designed to resemble a picturesque English village. There would be shops, a market square, a village hall, a public house and a small open-air amphitheatre. There would also be an information centre for visitors to Domington Castle, an ancient monument largely destroyed in the Civil War.

Under the government's set-aside scheme, the land is no longer used for growing crops. Mr Gladstone says he would be happy to manage his remaining 400 acres on a non-economic basis, allowing some of the land to be used as a nature reserve with public



Leading article, page 11

Writing for 'The Bill'

It's almost as tough as being in the Bill.

When Hemingway wrote 'The Sun Also Rises' he was writing from his own experience.

When Conrad wrote about a journey into the 'Heart of Darkness' he'd already been there.

And when our writers sit down to write for 'The Bill', they too are writing from experience.

Not that we're claiming our writers are on the same literary plane as Conrad or Hemingway.

It's just that we believe there's no substitute for experiencing the real thing - if, that is, you want to depict the real thing.

Which is why, before any of our writers put pen to paper to write about fictional police, we expect them to put in a lot of time observing and talking to real ones.

When we started the programme in 1984, we felt strongly that there were too many glamourised cop shows on TV.

There still are. But 'The Bill' is not one of them. It's about police work. Not about

policemen's love lives. And it depicts what life on the force is really like, not some exquisitely lit Armani-clad fantasy.

You'll seldom, if ever, see the 'Bill' team pitting their wits against slick, international jewel-thieves or deadly mafiosi.

Generally, they pit their wits against everyday

life on the streets with all its trials and tribulations.

To make sure they do so strictly according to police procedure, every scene and every line of dialogue is scrutinised by two police advisors: one ex-uniform, the other ex-CID. Of course, none of this

'TV-verité' would be of any consequence if the sets or the locations were less than convincing.

Which is why we built our very own fully operational police station, Sun Hill.

But is our policy of total realism - what we call beat-credibility - really worth all the effort?

That, of course, is for you the viewer to decide.

Certainly, the police seem to think so. Indeed many of them are dedicated 'Bill' watchers.

And from our own point of view, it has helped us to depict difficult and delicate issues in what we hope is a more sensitive and informed manner.

Above all, regular viewing figures of around eleven million confirm to us that drama can be authentic without having to lose any of its entertainment value.

All it takes is a brilliant cast of actors and actresses.

A fearless, dedicated production team.

And a lot of hard-hitting writing.



THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: WORLD RESPONSE

Iran cleric softens line on relations with London

By ANDREW McEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE deterioration in Britain's relations with Iraq as a result of the invasion of Kuwait appeared yesterday to have softened the attitude of Iran's clerical establishment towards London.

Britain has come close to meeting Iran's conditions for the restoration of diplomatic relations by condemning Salman Rushdie and showing respect for Islam, an Iranian religious leader said yesterday.

Ayatollah Mohammad Emami Kashani referred in a prayer sermon to a letter written to an MP by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, in which he praised Islam as "one of the world's greatest religions", and said that the

government understood that Rushdie's novel, *The Satanic Verses*, had deeply offended many people.

Ayatollah Kashani interpreted this as condemnation of Rushdie. There is little doubt that it was intentionally worded by the foreign secretary so that it could be construed that way. Condemnation of Rushdie or the book has been a key demand of the Iranian parliament, the Majlis. "By condemning Salman Rushdie and respecting beliefs of the Muslims, Britain has almost met the conditions set by the Majlis," the Iranian news agency Irna quoted him as saying.

Hurd for the first time in a clear stance of the British government condemned Salman Rushdie and expressed respect for Muslims in defending their beliefs'.

Ayatollah Kashani is a member of the Guardian Council which oversees the Iranian parliament, without whose authority the government cannot restore relations.

Mr Hurd's remarks were also the subject of another Iranian article quoted by Iran radio and monitored by the BBC. It said that Mr Hurd was "adopting a new policy", in conceding that Muslims were entitled to regard as obscene writings that insult their beliefs.

The Iranian government is likely to wait to see how Ayatollah Kashan's opinion is received before giving its own view. In the past, statements seen as favourable to Britain have often prompted criticism from hardliners opposed to any rapprochement.

Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, said last month that Britain had taken some positive steps but the *fatwa* against Rushdie remained in force and Iran's conditions for restoring links were unchanged.

A renewal of Anglo-Iranian ties could lead to the release of British hostages held in Beirut.

Islamic Jihad has suggested in the past that Western hostages should be exchanged for 15 Iraqi, Lebanese and Kuwaiti Shia Muslim prisoners held in Kuwait for terrorist offences.

The invasion of Kuwait has put Baghdad in a position to decide what should happen to them. Iraq is not likely to free them because they admitted at their trial that they were members of al-Dawa, an Iranian-backed dissident movement in Iraq. Some diplomats fear that Iraq might execute them.

This would probably neither help nor harm the Western hostages. Their captors hoped the West could persuade the emir of Kuwait to free them, but realise that Western countries have no influence on President Saddam Hussein.

French officials privately acknowledge that previous close links between Paris and Baghdad have greatly complicated the present situation. In the wake of the 1973 Middle East war, France had eagerly courted Iraq, with the then conservative prime minister, Jacques Chirac, visiting Baghdad to clinch an oil-for-nuclear-expertise deal.

In return for Iraqi crude, which last year accounted for almost a tenth of French oil imports, Paris had agreed to help develop the country's first nuclear reactor at Tamuz for "peaceful purposes".

Not long after the reactor was destroyed by the Israeli air force in a daring raid in June 1981, the Socialists came to power in France and, in the words of M. Dumas, "had continued to honour existing agreements".

In a recent interview, President Saddam confirmed that France had indeed stood by its "military engagements" with Iraq, but complained of foot-dragging in Paris about encouraging the Iraqis to develop their own weapons industry. Foreign observers said that at last year's Baghdad military fair, displays of Iraqi equipment included a Mirage modelled to fire Soviet missiles and a Soviet electronic surveillance aircraft fitted with French radar systems.

According to M Dumas, the present crisis is certain to affect French policy towards Iraq. It seems that the old love affair, with all its attendant diplomatic delicacies, is now over.

Referring to the hostages, he said: "Any outbreak of violence of that kind is bound to be worrying, but at the moment it is impossible to be more specific than that."

Dangers for Israel brought into focus

From OUR CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

THE invasion of Kuwait is a mixed blessing for Israel. It has deflected attention from the *intifada*, taking the pressure off Israel to compromise on the Palestinian problem, but has brought into sharp focus the threat Iraq poses to Israel's security. Since April, President Saddam Hussein has been threatening to use chemical weapons against the Jewish state.

Israeli officials have so far said that they did not expect to become militarily involved in the conflict. "There will be an Israeli response only if Iraq takes aggressive action against Israel," said Moshe Arens, the defence minister. But they also warned of a "red line" that would trigger an immediate response. This would be the entry of Iraqi troops into Jordan, which borders Israel. "The movement of Iraqi forces into Jordan would represent a real and immediate threat to Israel," Moshe Levy, the foreign minister, told Israel Radio yesterday.

Yossi Olmert, head of the Israeli government press office, said Israel should take President Saddam seriously. "He has the habit of issuing threats all over the place," Mr Olmert said. "Once he has made good on one, you can't ignore the others."

Palestinians and liberal Israelis are concerned that the Kuwait invasion will destroy any hope the Palestinians had of making gains from their 31-month uprising against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza strip.

The Palestinian issue is expected to be the centre of discussions that Mr Levy is to have in Washington on August 9. Instead, Iraq's action has given Israel an opportunity to press home the message that the United States needs Israel as a strategic ally.

Last month Mr Arens went to Washington for private talks with Richard Cheney, US defence secretary. His main mission was to try to get US guarantees of continued financial aid. There were reports in Israeli newspapers yesterday that Mr Arens may have warned Mr Cheney of possible Iraqi aggression in the Gulf during this visit.

To underscore Israel's potential usefulness to the Americans, there were reports from unidentified intelligence officials suggesting that Israel was giving all its intelligence information on the Iraq-Kuwait conflict to America. One intelligence source said Israel's intelligence community had turned Iraq's invasion on Thursday "into a full-scale exercise" in which they monitored military communications, intercepted and decoded telephone conversations and tried to anticipate Iraqi troop movements.

Abba Eban, page 10



Customers queue yesterday outside the National Bank of Kuwait in London. They can draw a maximum daily amount of £500 to £1,000

Death knell for ties with France

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

ON THE day of the invasion, French government officials were preparing to sign an initial accord with Iraq on a new formula for handling Baghdad's \$4 billion (£2.16 billion) debt. Virtually all of this represents massive arms purchases (as much as \$5 billion) by the regime of President Saddam Hussein during the Gulf war.

Then, sophisticated weaponry poured in from France. The Mirage 2000 fighter jet and the advanced Super Eurens, light and heavy tanks, artillery systems and the Exocet missiles that were used to knock out Iranian oil complexes at Kharg island and elsewhere.

As Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, acknowledged earlier this week, getting the money out of Iraq had proved "extremely difficult". As a result, efforts to reschedule Baghdad's debts had begun and an initial agreement had been reached.

A renewal of Anglo-Iranian ties could lead to the release of British hostages held in Beirut for terrorist offences.

The invasion of Kuwait has put Baghdad in a position to decide what should happen to them. Iraq is not likely to free them because they admitted at their trial that they were members of al-Dawa, an Iranian-backed dissident movement in Iraq. Some diplomats fear that Iraq might execute them.

This would probably neither help nor harm the Western hostages. Their captors hoped the West could persuade the emir of Kuwait to free them, but realise that Western countries have no influence on President Saddam Hussein.

● Runcie pledge: The Archbishop of Canterbury pledged yesterday not to relent or relax his vigilance in attempting to free his kidnapped envoy Terry Waite (Ruth Gledhill writes).

He said that, although he would retire next January, "I shall work away at it with my staff by every means possible, and if necessary after retirement". Speaking at the close of the meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council, at St Nicholas, near Cardiff, Dr Runcie called for urgent action to secure peace after the invasion of Kuwait.

"There is an urgent need for the international community to act, and they appear to be acting together, in order to bring about a peaceful and just settlement for the stability of the Gulf."

Referring to the hostages, he said: "Any outbreak of violence of that kind is bound to be worrying, but at the moment it is impossible to be more specific than that."

Since he invaded Iran in 1980, the Iraqi leader has been lectured to by the world, particularly by Western nations. Privately, however, he has been helped to build the most powerful military machine in the region. French warplanes, Soviet tanks, and the combined resources of European, American and Asian military

rivals. Today, as the Western powers and the Soviet Union decide to take united action against Iraq, President Saddam may be forgiven for believing that once again he will get away with one of his most daring gambits.

One of the most grotesque incidents in the war between Iran and Iraq, the attack by Iraqi warplanes on Halabja in March 1988, convinced President Saddam Hussein not only that he could escape punishment for ruthless actions but that aggression could intimidate neighbours and potentially

attend the Baghdad military fair held only a few months after the Gulf War ceasefire.

Tough stand on assets spreads

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

JAPAN, West Germany and other Western nations yesterday joined the move to prevent Iraq from getting hold of Kuwait's vast foreign investments, adding strength to steps taken by the United States, Britain and France.

Japan's government has instructed banks and other financial institutions to prevent Iraq from acquiring Kuwaiti assets held in Japan and is considering further steps in protest against the Iraqi invasion, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Its spokesman, Taizo Watanabe, said the government issued the instructions, called "administrative guidance", in response to a request from the Kuwaiti ambassador. He said Japan would consider taking further actions after deliberations by the United Nations Security Council last night. The government does not have the legal authority to freeze Kuwaiti assets in Japan, which total about \$20 billion, (£10.8 billion). But banks probably will follow the government's instructions to ensure that only the rightful owners of Kuwaiti assets are allowed access to them.

New, tougher guidelines for exports to Iraq of both military and civilian equipment have also been issued and careful controls established on all shipments to any destination of weapons and nuclear material.

Kuwait invests extensively in West Germany and has a 14 per cent holding in Daimler-Benz, which is the largest company in the country, as well as a 20 per cent stake in both the chemical giant, Hoechst, and the mining and engineering group, Metalgesellschaft.

Since the end of the Gulf War, West German exporters have worked hard to develop the market in Iraq, selling DM2 billion (£700 million) worth of goods last year, a 41

per cent increase over 1988. Because of this carefully nurtured market, West Germany was slower than some other countries, including Britain, to respond.

Italy's government yesterday froze Kuwaiti assets held in Italy and suspended arms exports to Iraq. The measures were taken during a Cabinet meeting to discuss the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The foreign minister, Gianni De Michelis, said the Cabinet approved a decree freezing Kuwaiti assets with immediate effect as a "precautionary" measure. The action was aimed at denying Iraq financial benefits from its invasion. Kuwait's state oil company, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, is the second-largest distributor of petroleum products to the Italian market and controls nearly 11 per cent of the domestic market after its acquisition of Mobil Italiana SPA in March.

Nino Cristoforini, an undersecretary, announced that the cabinet decided to suspend immediately all arms exports to Iraq. He said a formal decree may be drawn up later to conform with any decision taken by the EC.

Italy, which holds the rotating presidency of the EC, has scheduled a meeting of foreign ministry officials of the 12 member states in Rome today to discuss the crisis. Signor De Michelis told reporters that Italy would try to get the 12 to approve "concrete measures" to put "the maximum possible pressure" on Iraq to achieve an "immediate and unconditional" Iraqi withdrawal.

Belgium said it would freeze Kuwaiti assets. Switzerland stopped short of a freeze and asked its banks to vet carefully any withdrawals of Kuwaiti funds.

The Netherlands government froze export credits to both Iraq and Kuwait and said it was considering banning tankers carrying Iraqi crude oil from entering the port of Rotterdam.

Norway froze Kuwait's tiny assets in the country yesterday to prevent them from falling into Baghdad's hands and said it would back a wider international blockade of Iraq.

The Norwegian Shipowners' Association, which estimates that about 15 per cent of Kuwait's oil is exported in Norwegian tankers, said it opposed a unilateral trade embargo.

Continuation of the programme is not yet assured. The Senate vote sets the scene for a September confrontation with the House, which is considered certain to endorse this week's overwhelming vote by its armed services committee to end B2 production after completion of the 15 now-on-order. The Senate strengthened its bargaining position by making funding conditional on successful performance tests.

With Margaret Thatcher at his side, Mr Bush used his Colorado speech to respond to congressional criticism that the Pentagon had failed to adjust to the post-Cold War world. He announced that he aimed to cut US military strength of 2.1 million active service troops by 25 per cent by 1995 and gave the outlines of a Pentagon plan radically to revise its force structures.

Under the new policy of "peaceful engagement" there would be more emphasis on rapid deployment contingency forces and "reconstitutable" reserves, and less on the defence of Western Europe, though forward defence in key areas would remain an essential element of future strategy.

The Kuwaiti ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, a son of the Emir of Kuwait, told a crowd of 500 cheering Kuwaiti demonstrators yesterday that they would overcome Iraq's invasion if they stuck together. "Kuwait is going through a very hard time but if we stick together we will overcome the challenge," Salem Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, said before the crowd marched to the UN headquarters building to demand immediate UN action to force Iraq out.

In China an official newspaper yesterday accused the United States of raising tension in the Middle East by sending warships to the Gulf and freezing Iraqi financial assets. "The purpose of America's involvement in the conflict is to divide the Arab camp and isolate Iraq so as to reduce pressure on Israel," a leading article in the *China Youth News* said.

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In the absence of a long-term Pentagon plan for the post-Cold War era, the House in particular had sought to impose deep cuts of its own next year. It has before it a defence bill which would slash \$24 billion from the Pentagon's \$307 billion budget request, and kill, postpone or delay many big weapon programmes — moves which Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, has warned would wreak havoc on the US military.

Mr Bush warned Congress against making cuts with a meat axe rather than scalpel. "The US would be ill-served by forces that represent nothing more than a scaled-back or shrunken-down version of the ones we possess at present."

The B2 vote came as the Senate began consideration of its version of a defence bill which would cut \$18 billion from the Pentagon's 1991 request, a reduction which Mr Cheney says he can live with. However, Sabah family members said the former British Kuwaiti described as "a movement" in which was a share of the wealth.

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According to M. Dumas, the French foreign minister, the present crisis is certain to affect French policy towards Iraq. It seems that the old love affair, with all its attendant diplomatic delicacies, is now over.

Among those who condemned the Iraqi invasion, many also criticised the West for its inaction — or expressed fears it might do too much. "A peace-loving country has been attacked by a brutal man. That is terrible," said an Indian Muslim. "But the world response has been very bad. If it had been some other place they would have acted faster."

Meanwhile, in Switzerland yesterday, the building housing the offices of Iraqi Airways in Geneva caught fire, but the airline office was not damaged. Police said it was not immediately clear if the fire had been started deliberately or if it was an accident.

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President Saddam was summoned up well by none other than Nizar Hamdoon, the Iraqi deputy foreign minister, who was quoted in *The Wall Street Journal* yesterday describing another despot.

"Aggressors thrive on appeasement. The world learned that at tremendous cost from the Munich agreement in 1938... How could the German generals oppose Hitler once he had proven himself successful? Indeed, aggressors are usually clever at putting their demands in a way that seems reasonable."

Senate votes for stealth bomber reprieve

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Iraqi invasion of Kuwait will temper a congressional drive to impose sweeping cuts on the Pentagon's 1991 budget, and already has arguably saved the \$63 billion (£34 billion) B2 stealth bomber programme from almost certain termination in a Senate vote on Thursday night.

The invasion came at a critical moment in House and Senate deliberations on their respective defence bills, and has bolstered administration attempts to stave off precipitous reductions in America's military strength after communism's collapse.

President Bush, in a speech in Colorado on Thursday night, said: "Terrorism, hostage-taking, renegade regimes and unpredictable rulers — new sources of instability — all require a strong and engaged America. The events (in Kuwait) underscore, also, the vital need for a defence structure that not only preserves our security, but provides the resources for supporting the legitimate self-defence needs of our friends and allies."

Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader in the Senate, said that the invasion's silver lining was that it acted as a "wake-up call" for Congress.

Events in the Middle East dominated the debate, which preceded a Senate vote on whether to allocate \$4.6 billion next year to the radar-evading B2, the world's most expensive and advanced warplane.

The 53-45 vote was the narrowest margin in the aircraft's controversial history, and could conceivably have gone the other way had it not been for President Saddam Hussein.

Continuation of the programme is not yet assured. The Senate vote sets the scene for a September confrontation with the House, which is considered certain to endorse this week's overwhelming vote by its armed services committee to end B2 production after completion of the 15 now-on-order. The Senate strengthened its bargaining position by making funding conditional on successful performance tests.

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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: IRAQ'S CHOICES

Threat to Saudi Arabia raises risk of Nato intervention

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's war plan, which must include psychological if not physical domination of Saudi Arabia, the largest oil-producing country in the Gulf and the one most closely associated with Western interests, is forcing the United States and others to consider possible military options to stop him. Nato officials said yesterday that Washington had informed the alliance that military action might be used if Iraq went any further.

Iraq has deployed the equivalent of at least seven divisions, perhaps 120,000 men, on its southern borders, far more than needed for the lightning strike against the relatively defenceless Kuwait. With the two divisions deployed in Kuwait, that leaves about 80,000 combat troops on the Iraqi side of the border. Where President Saddam will send them, or if they are intended merely to keep up the pressure on the other oil producers to conform to his wishes over pricing policy are the questions exercising the international community.

His next target could be Bahrain, Qatar, or the United Arab Emirates. Like Kuwait, their conquest would involve a straightforward military operation. World condemnation of the invasion of

Kuwait will certainly not put back any of his plans.

John Laffin, an expert on the Middle East and author of many books on the Arabs, said: "I don't think any amount of United Nations posturing will stop him. He will revel in the worldwide condemnation because it will underline that he is the most powerful leader in the Arab world. He has humiliated President Mubarak of Egypt, who had tried to talk him out of acting against Kuwait, so he will be seen as the dominant figure in the Arab world."

President Saddam's real target must, however, be Saudi Arabia, with whom he has signed a non-aggression pact. Senator David Boren, chairman of the US Senate intelligence committee, said yesterday that "a possible invasion of Saudi Arabia cannot be ruled out". This would be a high risk operation. The Iraqi leader may never have been trained as a soldier, but he is shrewd. He knows that action against Saudi Arabia will force the Americans to come to its rescue, since Washington has guaranteed help to Saudi Arabia in the event of military intervention.

There appears at present to be no direct threat to Saudi Arabia, but America faces a dilemma: it cannot contemplate a pre-emptive move but must wait until it is asked for help.

Moreover, to set up a proper force, with the appropriate logistics, the Americans would need a base from which to operate. The only bases are in Arab countries and none has yet shown any willingness or desire to stand up to President Saddam. Saudi Arabia has always been adamant that no foreign base will be allowed on its territory. This is as much a matter of national pride as of a belief in the Middle East that a foreign military presence would inevitably attract conflict.

Granting the Americans basing rights would be seen in Baghdad as deliberately provocative. Perhaps the best chance for the Americans would be an offer of a base in Egypt, which has very close ties with the United States and yesterday called on Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. American and Egyptian forces each year hold training exercises based on possible joint intervention in the Middle East.

The Pentagon has contingency plans for intervening in the Middle East to protect Western oil supplies and the 30,000 American citizens living in the region, 3,800 of them in Kuwait. Yet it does not have a properly centralised rapidly deployable out-of-area capability. The only country with such a capability is France with a 47,000-strong Rapid Action Force.

The Americans could lift two di-

visions, the 82nd Airborne, based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the 101st Airborne, based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, which could probably reach Saudi Arabia in 72 hours. These units are on a normal 12-hour notice to mobilise. Both were used in the American invasion of Panama, but they are not heavily equipped and have only light armour. Their role would be to hold positions until heavy armoured units arrived. That would take some time, however, because they could only be brought to the Gulf by sea.

Pentagon officials said President Bush's military options were limited and that it would take several weeks at least to deploy a significant counterforce. The naval force already in the Gulf and the Independence carrier battle group approaching from the Indian Ocean pose no threat to Iraqi ground forces.

Another option is to use amphibious forces. There are two US combat Marine expeditionary units at present at sea, each numbering about 2,200 men. One is off Liberia in a four-vessel naval group, and the other is in the Pacific off the Philippines. There are also about fifteen "maritime prepositioning ships", based at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, which are stocked with everything from ammunition to food.

Logistics and timing would be crucial

if Iraq decided to move against Saudi Arabia. Dr Laffin said: "The Iraqis would not need to overrun Saudi Arabia. They wouldn't be able to because it is such a large country. But all they have to do is cross the border and make for Riyadh, the capital. This is the nerve centre for the whole country so, psychologically, the Iraqis would have captured the whole country. From Riyadh they could dictate terms to the Saudis and hold control over the oil fields."

Also, several key installations would be vulnerable to precision attacks, among them the huge water desalination plants, some of which are relatively close to the border with Kuwait. One is in the village of Ras al Khafji, 20 miles from the Kuwaiti border. Another is 40 or so miles from the Iraqi border in the military complex of Hafar al Batin, which includes an air and army base. There are also desalination plants at Jubail and Al Khobar, further down the Saudi coast. Jubail water is piped to Riyadh. Saudi Arabia is wholly dependent on desalination, but the defence of these facilities is reported to be minimal.

Washington has another option because of the changed circumstances in central Europe. It would be possible for the Americans to ship some of their 6,000 tanks from West Germany to the Middle East, a far quicker option.

Undoubtedly that would involve special political decisions. Bonn would have to agree but, since West Germany imports oil, it is unlikely to protest too much.

Moscow, though, would also have to be intimately involved in the decision-making. The Soviet Union would have to be told that elements of US forces in West Germany were being mobilised for an out-of-area operation, and Moscow would have to agree with the potential use of force against Iraqi troops. Britain would also be expected to play a key role. Cyprus could be used as a transit base.

The Saudis on their own could not hold back the Iraqis. The country is in the process of re-equipping its armed forces. At present Saudi armour consists of 300 French AMX 30, 50 American M60A1 and 200 M60A3 battle tanks, all older generation vehicles.

As a direct threat to targets in Iraq, the Saudis have CSS2 "Dong Feng" (East Wind) intermediate-range ballistic missiles with conventional warheads supplied by the Chinese, but these are notoriously inaccurate.

• Artillery deployed: The Iraqis have brought with them to Kuwait a number of artillery command and reconnaissance vehicles. Soviet ACRV2s, which, equipped with laser range-finders, provide computerised information for accurate artillery barrages.

Search for puppet rulers may prove hard for Saddam

By PETER MANSFIELD

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein has had such an easy success with his seizure of Kuwait that he may be underestimating the political difficulties he now faces.

He has said he will withdraw in days, or perhaps weeks, as soon as a "genuine and free" national Kuwait government is established. He must, therefore, find a group of Kuwaitis who would agree to form a puppet government which might conceivably be recognised by other Arab states, and especially by Kuwait's fellow members of the Gulf Co-operation Council led by Saudi Arabia. The alternative would be outright annexation of Kuwait.

Kuwait's existence as an independent state depends on the al-Sabah family. They created it in the 18th century and it has survived through their determination to defend their borders, but above all through the diplomatic skills of the Kuwaiti emirs in persuading much stronger outside powers and neighbours that it was more in their interests that Kuwait should survive than to be swallowed

up by any one of them. This was what happened when Kuwait was first threatened by an Iraqi takeover immediately after independence in 1961. If the al-Sabah family is deposed, Kuwait no longer has a *raison d'être* and the fiction that Iraq intervened on behalf of true Kuwaiti nationalists would be destroyed.

The elements for a puppet regime do not exist. Opposition to the regime did exist and was of two kinds: middle-class liberals and Islamic radicals or fundamentalists.

The first are represented by those members of parliament who opposed its closure in 1986 and the half-measures taken to restore it last June. Some are highly critical of the al-Sabahs, and include some representatives of the grand merchant families whose association with the administration of an independent Kuwait goes back as long as that of the family. But this does mean that they would be prepared to act as agents for President Saddam.

The other opposition element is even less likely material. The Islamic radicals



Invasion joy: Iraqis carrying banners and photographs of President Saddam through Baghdad's streets to celebrate the invasion of Kuwait

Gulf states maintain silence

From REUTER IN CAIRO

IN THE United Arab Emirates the silence was deafening. By noon yesterday, radio and television had still not mentioned the Iraqi invasion. As in other Gulf states, the first most people heard of it was from foreign radio stations.

"How can they do that in the late 20th century when a fellow state has been invaded?"

The Arab foreign ministers have passed the responsibility to the Arab summit due to take place in Cairo this weekend. Will Kuwait be represented at this summit by Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah, the emir, and will the council continue to recognise him and his government?

If they continue to do so and encourage him to set up a government-in-exile, this will not be enough to force an Iraqi withdrawal to be followed by the return of the al-Sabahs. But it would amount to total Arab rejection of Iraq's action.

If they fail to support a Kuwaiti government-in-exile they are undermining the legitimacy of their own regimes in the case of all the smaller sheikhdoms, where the ruling family in each case is the *raison d'être* of the state. Iran, for example, has a long-standing claim to Bahrain. The question of whether the emir will still be regarded as the legitimate ruler of Kuwait in the rest of the Arabian peninsula will be of crucial importance in coming weeks.

Peter Mansfield is author of *Kuwait, Vanguard of the Gulf*.

broke, Gulf residents flocked to big hotels equipped with international television and news agency teleprinter services. Gulf newspapers finally put the news on their front pages yesterday, 24 hours after Iraqi tanks rolled into Kuwait.

In Bahrain, state radio still ignored the invasion yesterday. In Saudi Arabia, media reaction was confused. On Thursday night, television carried an interview with the Kuwaiti ambassador in Washington who described the invasion and appealed for help.

But yesterday, Saudi newspapers merely reported that King Fahd was concerned to reduce tension between Kuwait and Iraq, without stating the cause. One Saudi television report showed Kuwait's

ruling al-Sabah family, who fled the invasion, "visiting" the kingdom, but did not say why they were there.

None of Kuwait's Gulf allies — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain — has condemned the invasion or threatened counter-action despite being linked in a joint defence pact.

There was muted support for Iraq in the Jordanian press. "If some are blaming Iraq... we urge them not to disregard a long chain of positions taken against Iraqi interests," *Ad-Dustur* said.

• Broadcast boost: The BBC World Service has increased its broadcasts in Arabic because of the invasion, by one hour in the evening and half an hour in its early morning programme.



Izzat Ibrahim, left, vice-chairman of Iraq's ruling council, meeting Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abd al-Aziz, Saudi Arabia's deputy prime minister, in Jeddah yesterday. Mr Ibrahim's failed talks with Kuwait preceded the invasion

Kuwait's radio and TV go off the air

From AFP AND REUTER IN KUWAIT

OFFICIAL Kuwait radio went off the air yesterday after repeated appeals for Arab and Western help to drive out invading Iraqi troops.

The radio, staffed by government loyalists, had been broadcasting calls for resistance, appeals for help and patriotic music since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait at dawn on Thursday. It went off the air at 2.30am, residents said.

The radio was not broadcast from a neighbouring country that could well have been Saudi Arabia, a reliable source said. Crown Prince Saad al-Sabah, the prime minister, went on the air on Thursday to urge the people to resist.

The state-run Kuwaiti television also abruptly stopped its programmes at 10am yesterday. But a lone Kuwaiti radio station was still broadcasting more than 24 hours after the invasion, appealing desperately for Arab help. "Where are the Arab accords? Where are the Gulf accords? Where are the Islamic accords? This is the time to implement them," said Huna Kuwait (This is Kuwait).

In a separate broadcast at 1.50am the radio said that the Kuwaiti armed forces were continuing to fight the invasion fiercely.

Baghdad troops consolidate position in Kuwait City

From AGENCIES
IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT'S greatly outnumbered forces continued to battle against invading Iraqi troops yesterday, and the sounds of fighting echoed across the capital.

Explosions heard between 6am and 7am appeared to come from Shuaibah, an army barracks on the city outskirts where Kuwaiti forces have been resisting the invading Iraqi troops.

A radio station broadcasting from a secret location urged Kuwaitis to repel the pre-dawn invasion. "We say no to surrender... the Iraqis are the Tatars of the 20th century," Huna Kuwait (This is Kuwait) declared in its early morning broadcast.

The extent of Kuwaiti resistance was unclear. It appeared that

the invasion army was consolidating its hold on the small Gulf state. Regional radio stations said that the Iraqis, backed by tanks, helicopter gunships and occasional jet fighter support, now controlled the country's main oil installations, situated to the south of Kuwait City.

The city was under curfew, but from behind their windows residents watched a show of Iraqi force when 200 tanks clanked through the capital on Thursday evening. Some tanks drew up along the waterfront with their guns trained towards the Gulf where, further to the south, United States warships were on patrol.

"Our government warns foreign banks in which they deposited their money against any tampering with this money in a manner harming the Kuwaiti people," a communiqué said.

Occupying Iraqi troops have adopted the Sheraton hotel in a Kuwaiti suburb as their headquarters, eschewing the government buildings they seized earlier on

Thursday for the hotel's more comfortable lodgings.

Most people seemed unaware of the revolutionary council that, according to the Iraqis, had taken over power.

Apart from the fighting scenes from the occupied city bordered on the bizarre.

In one area on Thursday night about 30 Kuwaitis stood patiently in line, waiting to rent video-cassette movies for the night. The reason, in the words of one of them, was that most residents were staying at home and "sitting tight".

Many cars were left in the streets, some not even parked but merely abandoned as if the drivers saw the approaching troops and fled. Roads and footpaths in parts of the city have been damaged and churned up by the hundreds of Iraqi tanks that

entered Kuwait. Some of the Iraqi troops drove around the capital in confiscated Kuwaiti police cars.

At a roundabout troops milled about, sitting, eating and talking while rocket-launchers stood nearby. About 100 soldiers wandered around outside the Sheraton. In the centre of Kuwait City, the streets were largely deserted. It was only out in the suburbs that local residents dared to venture outside for long.

The only sign of domestic unrest was spot panic-buying in the supermarkets, where residents shopped quickly and headed right home.

In the city centre Iraqi troops were stationed at key government offices, which included the defence and information ministries, the Central Bank of Kuwait and the National Assembly.

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Germans set October date for polls and reunification

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

GERMANY now seems certain to be reunited on October 14, six weeks earlier than planned.

This will enable elections to be held for a pan-German government capable of ending the insecurity and uncertainty which is undermining what is left of the East German economy and raising fears of another mass exodus from east to west.

The early date was proposed by Lothar de Maizière, the East German prime minister, and quickly accepted by Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, who is likely to become the first postwar chancellor of a united Germany as a result of the change.

The all-German elections establish political clarity and economic security," Herr de Maizière said in East Berlin yesterday. Early elections would help to encourage investment and create new jobs. "The past few days have shown this ever more clearly."

Herr de Maizière chose October 14 because that date was already fixed for elections

Kaunda's son 'should face trial'

Lusaka — The son of President Kaunda must be charged with the murder of a young woman here last September, a Zambian coroner ruled yesterday. The public prosecutor will now decide whether to prosecute. The enquiry found that the death of Tabeth Mwanza, aged 20, who was shot through the back of the head, was murder. Mr Kamwage Kaunda, aged 25, told the enquiry: "I admit I fired the fatal shot which killed her." But he said he acted in self-defence. (Reuters)

Singh's day

Delhi — Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Indian prime minister, won unanimous vote of confidence from his party yesterday, consolidating his position in the minority government after sacking Devi Lal, his deputy. (AFP)

Lightning deaths

West Palm Beach, Florida — Barbara Buchanan, aged 31, and her daughter Michelle died when lightning apparently struck a pond and travelled up their fishing lines. Buchanan's niece, aged 11, who was hurled into the water, survived. (AP)

Soyuz success

Moscow — The Soviet Soyuz TM-10 spacecraft docked yesterday at the Mir space station carrying two cosmonauts to take over from two others who have been living and working there for almost six months. The spacecraft had lifted off on Wednesday. (AFP)

Rubbish fears

East Berlin — McDonald's, the fast-food chain, which wants to set up in East Berlin, has promised to help farmers by buying their produce. But East German politicians want McDonald's to be banned, saying its throw-away plastic cartons will cause huge disposal problems. (Reuters)

Leading article, page 11

Baker offers aid to Mongolians

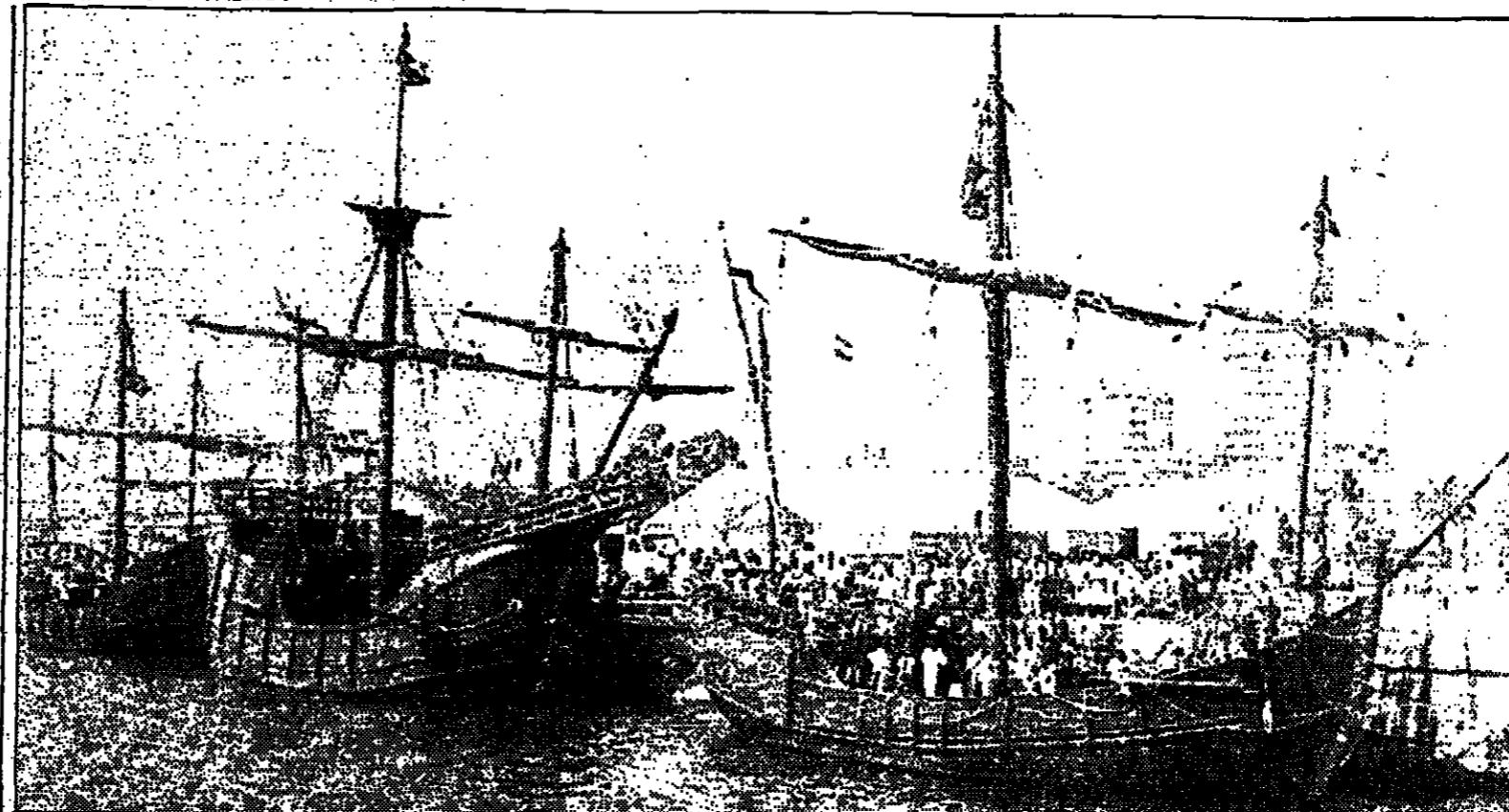
From CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, found time to voice American support for Mongolia's fledgling democracy before rushing off to Moscow yesterday, his visit cut short by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

During his visit, Mr Baker offered Mongolia a \$1.1 million (£595,000) US aid package. He said that "as Mongolia moves forward to implement its reforms, the United States wants to be of assistance".

"I think the commitment to reform is real here," he said, after discussing with Mongolians the results of last week's first multi-party elections, which maintained the communist Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party in power, but gave a significant voice to opposition parties in the country's legislature, the Little Hural.

Mr Baker had time to pose while drawing the string of a traditional bow and arrow before leaving, but had to abandon his plans to go hunting ibex in the Mongolian wilds. His sudden and un-



In the wake of Columbus: replicas of Niña, Santa María and Pinta, Christopher Columbus' ships which sailed to America, being prepared in Huelva, Spain, yesterday for a two-year journey around Europe and America to mark the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the New World

Hungarian MPs elect Goncz as first president

From ERNEST BECK
IN BUDAPEST

ARPAD Goncz, a writer who languished for six years in prison after the Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956, yesterday swore the oath of office as the first president of the new Democratic Republic of Hungary.

Mr Goncz, aged 68, who has served as interim president since May and is

a member of the opposition Alliance of Free Democrats, was elected by an overwhelming majority in parliament, receiving support from all six parties represented.

MPs were empowered to choose the head of state after the invalidation, because of a poor turnout, of last weekend's national referendum on whether parliament or the people should elect him. In an emotional ac-

ceptance speech Mr Goncz said he would continue to work for and defend the ideals of freedom, democracy and human rights which had shaped his life. He said his nomination was not so much for him personally but for all those who served prison terms and fought with him in the past 40 years of communism.

It was a dramatic moment for Mr Goncz, who served six years of a life

term imposed in 1958 before being freed under a general amnesty. While he was in prison he taught himself English, after obtaining a copy of Churchill's memoirs, and later became the first Hungarian translator of the works of William Faulkner.

While the post of president is largely ceremonial, Mr Goncz is likely to use his prestige to become the conscience of the nation.

Cambodia guerrillas agree to talks

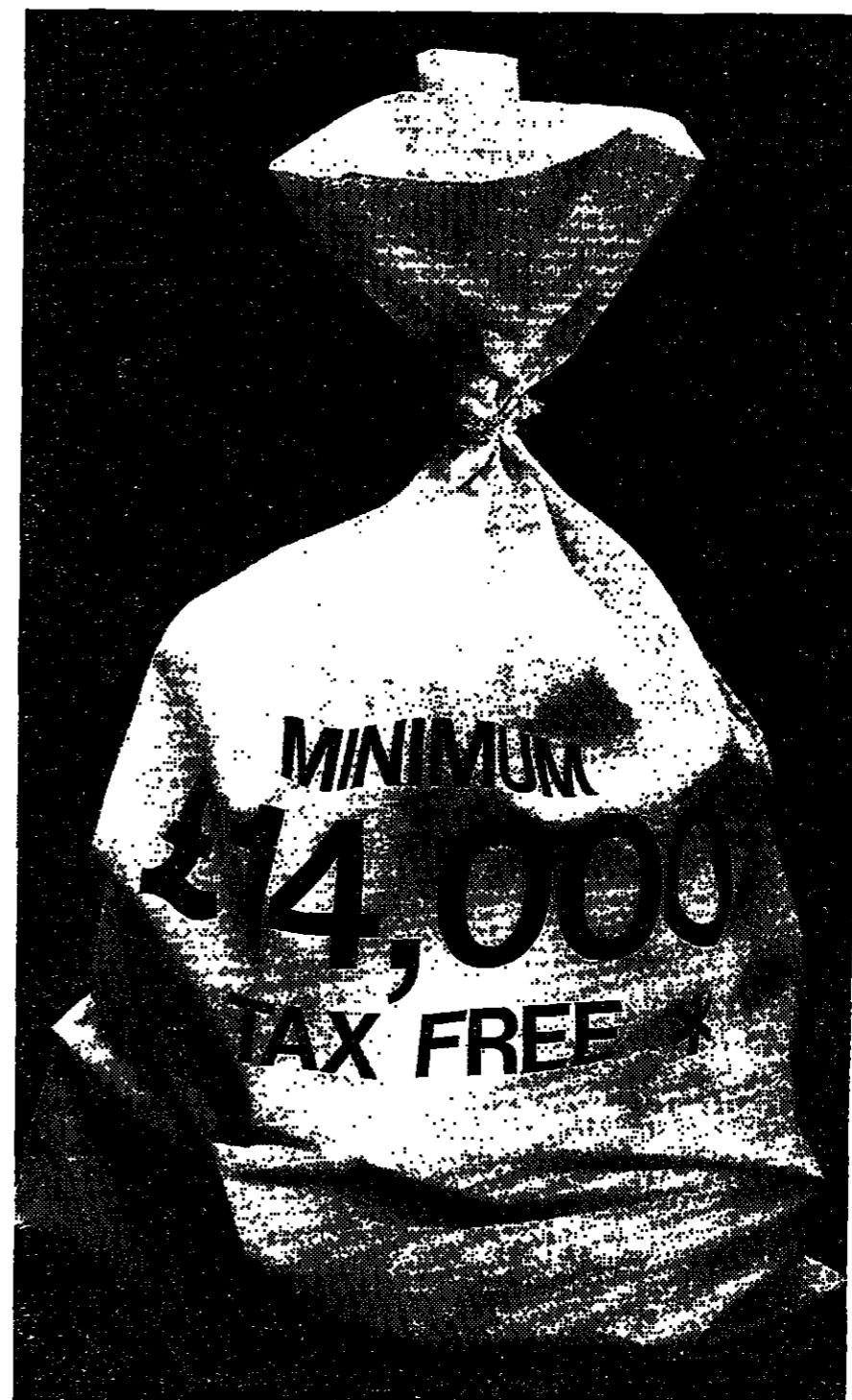
From ASSOCIATED PRESS
IN BANGKOK

AFTER a two-month delay, the Khmer Rouge agreed yesterday to the formation of a supreme national council as part of a peace settlement with the Cambodian government. The country's other two guerrilla factions agreed to the council in June, but the Khmer Rouge said it was not being treated as an equal and boycotted the plan.

Khieu Samphan, of the Khmer Rouge leadership, said yesterday on Khmer Rouge radio that the group would participate "in the meeting of all Cambodian parties... to discuss the composition of the supreme national council in a reconciliation spirit most speedily set up this council".

But Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, has said the council's composition has been decided and has rejected calls for new talks.

In a joint statement last month, the ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) called for the urgent formation of the council. They noted that some proposals have called for the council to work with the United Nations in governing Cambodia in the period before elections.



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Our dear old Swanwick

Clifford Longley

These are the closing days of the British Council of Churches. Staff contracts expire next month, and after 48 years it will quietly die. Immediately out of the ashes will rise a new set of institutions, and Christianity in Britain will begin to take a new shape.

This change was one of the reasons given by Dr Runcie for the early announcement of his retirement. He is president of the BBC, and he wants his successor to be in position to play a leading role from the start in what is to follow. This also seems to be one of the main factors in the choice of his successor, and for the decision to announce the appointment so soon.

These two factors are linked to a third: the official launch of the "decade of evangelism" next January. The new ecumenical institutions in Britain will be crucial to the decade of evangelism which has been widely cited as another reason for Dr Carey's selection. However, the appointment has so far been seen exclusively in an Anglican rather than an ecumenical context. Yet the Crown Appointments Commission approached a cross-section of Roman Catholic and Free Church leaders for their views, and all emphasised that the next Archbishop of Canterbury should be someone with whom they could work closely in the new inter-church structures, and in bringing about the decade of evangelism.

So three things are happening at the same time, but only one of them, the appointment of Dr Carey, has been widely reported. The other two provide the context needed to make complete sense of it. The Church of England has been accused many times of merely paying lip-service to ecumenism while doing its own thing, but for once, with Dr Carey's appointment, a key decision affecting the church's internal life has been strongly influenced by ecumenical considerations.

These developments have been neglected even inside the churches, not least because their significance is hard to pin down. The new institutions have strangely coy – and to journalists' eyes off-putting – titles: Churches Together in England, Action of Churches Together in Scotland, and Churches Together in Wales. There will also be a new umbrella body called the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland, about which the only thing that can be said for certain is that it will be very different from the British Council of Churches.

These four bodies have been labelled "ecumenical instruments", and the negotiations leading to their establishment have been called the Inter-Church Process, or sometimes, with scant attention to grammar, "Not Strangers but Pilgrims". At the heart of this impenetrable forest of

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Those requiring proof of the socialist bias of the BBC need go no further than its coverage of the Worldwide Fund for Nature controversy. Not once has the case against the giant panda been put. What do pandas expect? Everyone is blaming the Worldwide Fund for Nature. Why is nobody blaming the pandas?

Responsibility for the imminent demise of this ludicrous species should be placed squarely where it belongs: on the panda. By their own in-dolence and fussiness they have got themselves into this; and now they won't lift a paw to get themselves out. As Confucius put it: "Buck stop at desk of panda."

So they are on their way out. Well, who isn't? In the long term, as Keynes said, we are all extinct. Let us have an end to the wildlife dependency culture. Let the message go out loud and clear to the rest of the furry flotsam and feathered jetsam, scrounging flora and couch-potatoes of the animal kingdom: the party's over.

Readers of this column may have noticed before my hostility to these sacred green cows. But so far I have only scratched the surface of the great shambling fluffy heap of inadequacy which is the giant panda. Gawp bless you Prince Philip, but you are out of your depth on this one. Let me put you straight. Your Royal Highness: Ten Things You Didn't Know About Pandas...

• They are not cuddly at all. Their adorable "sun glasses" are a trick. They have foul, grumpy natures. They smell.

• They are the world's ultimate fops about food. They refuse to eat leftovers. They are actually carnivores but are too idle to catch anything, and have opted instead for bamboo.

• Their digestions are not designed for bamboo. So a panda has to eat about 40lb of it a day to keep going. Bamboo dies after flowering. The pandas do not appear to have thought of this, and expect western charities to organise relief supplies.

• Pandas have no sense of fun and none of community. Disliking the company even of

jargon is the name Swanwick, from the place in Derbyshire where it all started to come together. The crucial moment – people who were there can still tell you exactly what they were doing at the time – was on September 3, 1987, when Cardinal Basil Hume dramatically announced that the Roman Catholics would after all take part. Until then it had seemed they might refuse to join, thwarting the whole exercise.

If Christianity has much of a future in Britain, it can no longer be left to the Church of England alone. The C of E is still the largest and the richest of the churches, and its established status gives it an anchor in English society which could still be valuable, but by itself it has not proved equal to the challenge of secularism. Its once easily assumed leadership of British Christianity is now having to give way to something more like equal partnership with the other heavyweights.

The British Council of Churches was mainly a channel through which the Church of England could relate to the Church of Scotland and the Free Churches, so the decision to wind it up was an admission that there is no longer any sense in excluding the Roman Catholic Church. On most reckonings (except weekly church attendance) the Roman Catholic Church is second to the C of E within England; in Britain as a whole, it is clearly the predominant Christian institution (and even more so if Ireland were included). Yet for theological and historical reasons, it is hard for the others to come to terms with.

Dr Carey is ideally suited to head the Anglican presence in this new arrangement. Even his loudly declared support for the ordination of women may turn to his advantage, for it will protect him from the charge, somewhat debilitating to Dr Runcie's ecumenical efforts, that he is a secret Romanist trying to fashion deals with Rome that would betray the C of E's primary beliefs. Dr Carey can be as warm to the Roman Catholic Church as he likes – and he is pretty warm already – without arousing such suspicions.

The decade of evangelism started life as a decade of evangelisation, the preferred word in Roman Catholic circles, and it was announced by the Pope as a global preparation for the end of the millennium. He invited the other churches to join, and in 1988 the Lambeth Conference pledged Anglican participation. Most other churches have made a similar commitment, and one of the first tasks for the new institutions will be to pick up the baton and run with it. Which way and how well they run may depend on the relationship between the new Archbishop of Canterbury and the Roman Catholic Church. All the signs so far suggest that it will work out famously.

These four bodies have been labelled "ecumenical instruments", and the negotiations leading to their establishment have been called the Inter-Church Process, or sometimes, with scant attention to grammar, "Not Strangers but Pilgrims". At the heart of this impenetrable forest of

Abba Eban believes his country has a crucial role in forcing Saddam Hussein to back down

Why Arabs must look to Israel

Danger and opportunity often go hand in hand. They now meet in the Gulf. The danger is self-evident. A ruthless dictator is on the rampage, contemptuous of neighbouring sovereignties, regional peace and international order. Unless Saddam Hussein is checked early in his course, he will spread his devastation until the chance of redress is lost.

Historic analogies are rarely perfect, but this does not mean they are always irrelevant. The tragedy of the 1930s was born of a deadly chain in which every unresisted episode brought mankind closer to the precipice. The Rhineland, Ethiopia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Albania and Poland were landmarks at any of which a robust resistance could have arrested the deadly momentum. There is no such thing as a static or satisfied dictatorship.

So much for the danger. Opportunity arises because Saddam Hussein is a Hitler only in malicious intent, not in power. This is where opportunity could transcend and neutralise the danger. A victory for international civility is available here with not a fraction of the cost incurred by hesitant counsels a half century ago. All the conditions are ripe for enclosing this tyrant in a water-tight quarantine affecting his economy, his diplomatic relations, his regional status and his military

options.

That all the major powers have condemned the Iraqi aggression and demanded withdrawal illustrates how profoundly perestroika and the democratic revolution in Eastern and Central Europe have widened the effective scope of collective action on behalf of international peace and security. A joint approach by Washington and Moscow, backed by all Europe, Egypt and Israel, without cold-war inhibitions, could be the central hope of a new Middle East. It could be that Saddam Hussein is trumpeting the pride that goes before the fall.

To say that the Arab world is divided would be to flatter Saddam Hussein too much. Those led by President Mubarak, in this case comprising Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the pragmatic and realistic part of the Palestinian establishment, are the dominant consensus. Saddam Hussein is the lonely deviation. He can be contained and brought to fate.

If Kuwait is left to its fate, who would vouch for the oil-rich Saudi Arabia, for the Emirates and for a Syria whose leader is beginning to demonstrate the prudence and restraint which led to the 1974 Syrian-Israeli disengagement? Can Jordan doubt that its integrity is safeguarded by Israel's deterrent power, not by the illusory Bagdad-Amman alliance? King Hussein should look westward across

the narrow river for his kingdom's safety, not eastward toward the Gulf. And nothing will be lost by Israel making its deterrent intention clear.

Meanwhile, it would be grotesquely rash to interpret the Bagdad-Kuwait situation as a reason – or excuse – for maintaining a deadlock in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. The same Israeli view is that expressed yesterday by Yitzhak Rabin: "I predict that further statements in our relations with the Palestinians in the territories will impel the Arabs to look increasingly toward Iraq for inspiration ... I refer to Jordan, to Saudi Arabia and to the Palestinians themselves..."

Saddam's invasion of a helpless Kuwait has a more sensational sound than the laborious search for a Palestinian-Israeli settlement. Yet Iraq is not Israel's main problem. It does not affect our structure, it does not impinge negatively on our economy or on our international relationships and it does not call for action beyond an increase in vigilance and a serene and unprovocative projection of our own strength. That Iraq is not contiguous with Israel is immensely important, for it means that Saddam could attack us only by inaugurating an exchange of missiles, which would expose him to untold devastation. The other theoretical options would be available only if he were

having been expelled from the West Bank. The solution of the Palestinian representation problem should lie in normal international practice, which tells us that all peoples have a right to be represented by emissaries of their choice, and that the criterion is not virtue but effectiveness.

Mr Baker's proposal for a Cairo dialogue is the most innocuous and lenient, the safest and least hazardous proposal ever submitted to Israel by any foreign power. It could be built into a community structure which Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians could find a way of maintaining a separate juridical and cultural identity while closely integrating in all other domains. What Europe can best offer Israel and its neighbours is the example of its own Community structure.

We are approaching an age in which not a single European, East or West, will be living in a society not based on equality and consent. Saddam's squashed manoeuvre must not only be resisted by righteous encirclement, it must be discredited by competing models of national freedom, social harmony and institutionalised regional co-operation. Only thus can we Middle Eastern nations emerge from deadlock and flow with the movement and impulse of the modern age.

The author was Israeli foreign minister, 1966-74.

When one small thing leads to chaos

As the temperature nudges 100, Alan Franks reports on a chance discovery that has turned world weather predictions upside down

Chaos is reigning in the American scientific establishment. This is not the standard turbulence of disciplines at war among themselves and with others, but the phenomenon which becoming accepted as a governing force in widely diverse areas of research. Its sole constant is seeming randomness, and its consequent ability to thwart projections by even the most credible scientific models.

Nowhere is this truer than in the field of meteorology, which chaos theory threatens to reduce to fatuity through the notion, known as the Butterfly Effect, that an insect bating its wings and disturbing the air in China today can next month transform the storm systems in New York or indeed London. If chaos is taken to its logical extremes, then all our predictions, the best and the worst about global warming must be rendered meaningless, since its central tenet is that there is no such thing as a reliable prediction.

It is appropriately enough, in the business of weather forecasting that chaos theory has its origins. In his book *Chaos* published three

years ago and now enjoying huge influence in the United States, the American science writer James Gleick tells the story of the dogged, if eccentric researcher Edward Lorenz, whose allegiances switched from mathematics to meteorology as a result of his experience as a weather forecaster for the Army Air Corps during the second world war.

In the early 1960s he constructed an elaborate "toy weather" machine which would give out daily records of the conditions it was simulating. While it could not hope to match the real globe for complexity of atmospheric conditions, it nonetheless had a "weather" of its own, and one which seemed to be doing more than a passingly good imitation of the world beyond. If you could deduce the pattern of the prevailing wind and the rotation of the cyclones. Whatever its deficiencies, the device was compelling enough to attract a following from his fellow meteorologists and graduate students.

To begin with, the behaviour of the Lorenz's "weather" appeared to conform to his intuition – and the evidence of his computer

print-outs – that over a period of time the weather will repeat itself in a more or less familiar series of patterns. Except that, rather like the comparable view of history, these repetitions were never quite exact. There was a pattern, certainly, but there were disturbances too. It was, in Gleick's words, an orderly disorder.

Then, one day in 1961, wanting to scrutinise one particular sequence, Lorenz decided to save time by picking up the program halfway through, rather than starting at the beginning. To feed the machine its original conditions, he typed the numbers from the previous print-out.

When he returned an hour later, says Gleick, "he saw something unexpected, something that planted a seed for a new science." This new run should exactly have duplicated the old. Lorenz had copied the numbers into the machine himself. The program had not changed. Yet as he stared at the new print-out, he saw his weather diverging so rapidly from the pattern of the last run that, within just a few moments, all resemblance had disappeared. He looked at one set of numbers, then back at the other. He might as well

have chosen two random weathers out of a hat."

The crux of the matter was this: the computer's memory stored its figures to six decimal places, while the print-outs, to save space, gave them to only three. Lorenz had keyed in the abbreviated forms on the assumption that the difference was negligible. Yet the tiny discrepancies had proliferated, fed off themselves, and in a relatively short period of time had become momentous.

Here was the origin, or chrysalis of the Butterfly Effect, which underpins the theory of chaos not only in meteorology but in the other predictive sciences. Gleick describes it thus: "For small pieces of weather – and to a global forecaster, small can mean thunderstorms and blizzards – any prediction deteriorates rapidly. Errors and uncertainties multiply, cascading upward through a chain of turbulent features, from dust devils and squalls up to continent-size eddies that only satellites can see." This realisation has led to the abandonment of long-range weather forecasting.

After Lorenz, the idea that chaos must be a critical factor in

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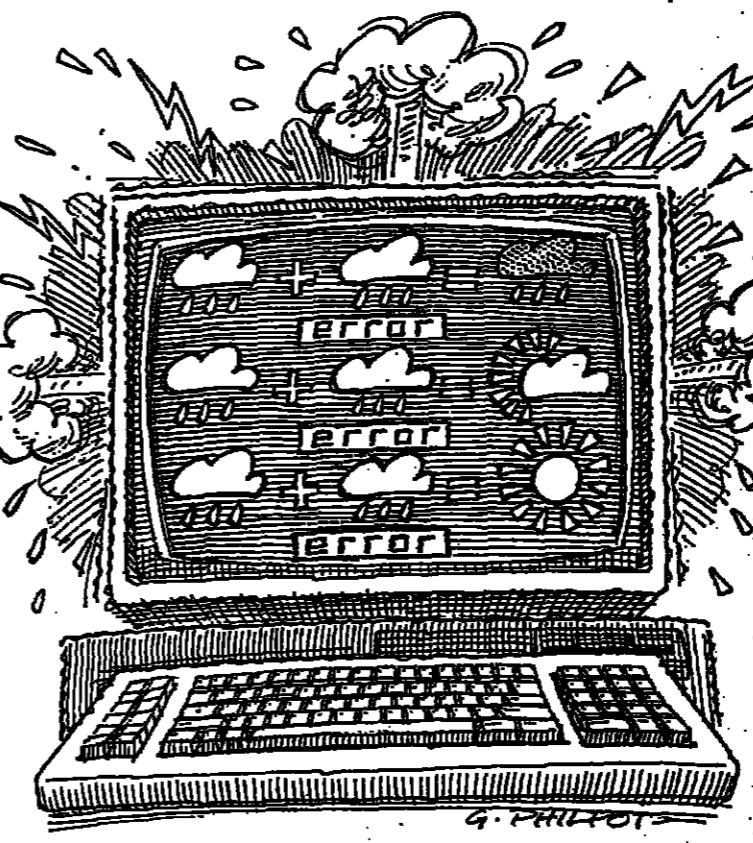
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Unravelling the Blue Riband

The increasingly fraught attempts to have the Blue Riband Trophy returned to Britain have received an unexpected boost. A close relative of Harold Hale, the Tory MP who in 1935 donated the 42in gill-and-silver trophy for the fastest crossing of the North Atlantic, has supported the claim by owners of the catamaran Sea at Hoverspeed Great Britain.

Since the £10 million vessel made the crossing in June in three days, seven hours and 25 minutes (breaking the record set by the liner United States in 1952), the American Merchant Marine Museum in New York has refused to hand it over, arguing that Hale intended it to go only to the "greyhounds" of the north Atlantic passenger trade.

"The catamaran did not carry passengers," says the museum's lawyer, Peter Clarke. "It was just a publicity stunt."

Frankly, this shower is going nowhere. Pandas are not pulling their weight. I did not vote for Mrs Thatcher to featherbed a load of furry scroungers who think the world owes them a living. As Alan Walters says: "There's no such thing as a free bamboo shoot." We don't subsidise uneconomic coal mines, so why should we subsidise uneconomic pandas?

Ninety-nine point nine per cent of the species that the earth has ever supported are now extinct. These Johnny-come-lately species don't know they are born. We humans were a young species once. And there were no charitable trusts to mollycoddle us when we were clobbered with ice-ages, showered by molten lava and chased by mammoths. No Sir! We got on our bikes and evolved.

So my advice to the BBC and the Worldwide Fund for Nature is ditch pandas and get into rats. Rats are smart. Rats are survivors. All about rats on Monday.

trophy returned. "It would be nice if it could come home. He would like that." Clarke, however, refuses to budge, though he adds: "If the QE2 were to go across and beat the record we would have absolutely no problem whatever in turning it over." How about it, Cunard?

• Darlington residents could be forgiven had they taken to the streets on Thursday to welcome the first rain in weeks. On one of the hottest days on record, the Northern Echo published the following forecast: "Occasional wintry showers. Visibility good but poor in showers. Wind severe, gale force 9. Sea state: High." A computer error," says the paper.

Marketing man Frederick Marsh hopes to introduce a similar product in Britain. "I think it's

Order of the elbow

Pushy journalists are not usually a cause for complaint, especially from vicars of National Health Service catering. But groans of "Oh no, not salmon again" can be heard echoing through the wards of the Borders General Hospital at Melrose after the delivery to its kitchen of 170 prime fish seized from poachers on the River Tweed. The hospital chef has been searching the recipe books for way-out salmon recipes – preferably those enabling it to be served looking and tasting like something else.

Raymond Blanc, chef at Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons near Oxford, is aghast at such scruples. "Poached, very simply in a vegetable stock, is the perfect way of serving salmon," he says. "And that would be ideal for people who are convalescing. Rich creamy sauces? Definitely not." M Blanc calculates that 170 fish will provide roughly 10 meals each for the

hospital's 400-plus patients. Couldn't they do a deal – ship the remaining salmon to Oxford in exchange for bangers and beef?

• You're Such a Cowlife, Henry

a good idea," he says. "I would suggest a variety with no colour or additives to take into account health concerns." Marsh plans to take his suggestion to Pedigree Foods. "It is owned by Mars," he points out, "which now makes a Mars ice-cream bar."

Blue is green

Finally conceding that the cold war is over, Lady Olga Maitland, indefatigable champion of the nuclear deterrent, is turning her gunpowder to Friends of the Earth. She has just launched an outfit called Conserve to promote the Conservative case for the environment. "It's the government that is leading the way on lead-free petrol," she says. "We will show that the Conservatives are the guardians of the planet."

Foreign Office minister William Waldegrave



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

BLACKMAIL AND BLACK GOLD

Wall Street fell heavily yesterday, down 65 points in the first two hours. Although commercial oil stocks and strategic reserves stand at 99 days' supply and are adequate to withstand a temporary squeeze, President Saddam Hussein has given the world more to be nervous about than queues at petrol pumps.

But anxiety should be kept in proportion. The industrialised countries' economies are much less dependent on oil than they were in 1973-4. Oil is still cheap by 1974 standards at the \$21-23 range at which, provided there are no further upheavals in the Gulf, prices seem likely to settle. That is a sharp increase on the \$16 level of a few weeks ago, but the damage should be containable.

In the United States, where figures released yesterday showed unemployment at a two-year high, the economy was already showing signs of cyclical weakness verging in some states on recession. A 3¢ per barrel increase in oil prices would, on OECD estimates, increase inflation by 1 per cent. As a counter-measure, Japan and West Germany would be likely to raise interest rates. The United States has become so dependent on Japanese investors to finance the budget deficit that the US Federal Reserve would then be unable to pull the economy out of recession by lowering American rates.

Stagflation in the United States would mean bleak prospects for those who trade with it. The repercussions would be felt across the Atlantic, particularly in Britain, where manufacturing exports would be affected by simultaneous rises in energy costs and sterling. The key question is therefore whether the surge in oil prices is temporary, or likely to hold. The answer, which will in part be determined by political reaction to the invasion of Kuwait, depends on the balance of supply and demand.

The OPEC row over quotas reflects an underlying glut, but withdrawal of 4.5 million barrels per day (mbd) in Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil production from the market would more than eliminate the 2.7 mbd production surplus. Now that it has stolen Kuwait's capacity, Iraq's interest lies in selling its newly-enhanced production, albeit while forcing other Gulf producers at gunpoint to keep the price up by

sticking rigidly to OPEC's new quotas. That does not, however, mean that supplies will soon return to normal. Where Kuwaiti oil is concerned, Iraq may have difficulty in finding buyers because there is, to say the least, ambiguity about its legal title. Iraq's own production of 3 mbd is already subject to an American import ban, and could soon be the object of a Nato ban and even a legally binding Security Council embargo.

However, no embargo would be leak-proof. Iraq's oil flows by three routes. Two pipelines carry 1.2 mbd from its northern Kirkuk field through Turkey, which is already under pressure to close them from the United States. Half as much again feeds into the Saudi pipeline to the Red Sea. That oil would be impossible to distinguish from Saudi oil; but were Saudi Arabia to be bullied into passing off Iraq's supply as its own, to get round an embargo, that would imply compensatory cuts in its own production. The rest goes by tanker, and would be vulnerable to naval blockade.

An embargo would keep oil prices at or above the new OPEC "floor" of \$21, but not so far above as seriously to damage the world economy. Most of the market shortfall could be made up by Venezuela and Nigeria. The world this weekend is not doomed to suffer another oil shock. But Saddam Hussein, by putting politics back into the oil market, has still placed energy security firmly back on the long-term agenda.

If demand for oil continues to rise at present rates, it will be up by 10 mbd within ten years. OPEC's power will increase, because most of the extra supply will have to come from the Gulf countries: Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait have two-fifths of proven reserves.

Environmental and security concerns march hand in hand. Planning for the next oil shock must begin now. Saddam's aggression may have done the world an unintended service, both by awakening it to the danger of letting a dictator's imperial ambitions set oil prices instead of the markets; and by offering a preview of a future unpalatable dependent on the region he aims to dominate.

A BIRTHDAY HONOURED

The royal lady who reached her 90th anniversary today, and reached it in such splendid health and spirits, has earned many times over every cheer and tribute that she has lately received. No royal birthday is a solitary event, this one least of all.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is now so much a part of the nation's life that she might have been born to it. Yet she could not have guessed, when she married the Duke of York in April 1923, what strange chance would bring them to the throne. The transition was not easy. The wound of the Abdication took time to heal, and in a sense never did. She is said to have felt the pain more deeply than any other member of the royal family.

Queen Elizabeth's first great public test came only three years later. She and the King rose to the occasion of war and lightened the nation's darkest hour. Even at the worst times they were in London, sharing the dangers subject to the same fears. This remains the foundation of the respect in which she is still held, half a century on. From then, and through the long years of widowhood, the affection she has inspired has steadily increased and shows no sign of diminution.

The bond between the Queen Mother and the nation is rooted in two quite distinct qualities, her instinct for the place and purpose of the monarchy and her personal warmth. Modern European kings may cycle through their realms, but many forget that kingship in the day of democracy must offer an aloofness, a focus of distant respect and affection separate from the heavy brigade of politics. Monarchy is for those who, resigned to being governed, more or less relish the thought of being reigned over. The allure of that focus is powerful, and it is hardly surprising that many, weary of the

No such thoughts trouble the Queen Mother. Yet the ease and good humour with which she shoulders her royal position and an unceasing round of engagements have formed a role model of royal behaviour: the smile, the careful speech, the gracious wave, the ability to betray no trace of controversy, no hint of humbug or treachery. It is this that has rendered her more than passing regal and made her — in the original sense — truly popular.

Lytton Strachey's account of the death of Queen Victoria in 1901 included a striking reminder of what was obvious but forgotten. He said that "the vast majority of her subjects could not remember a time when she was not reigning over them". Today, the vast majority of Britons cannot remember a time when the Queen Mother was not among them. As her progeny have personified, and continue to personify, each generation of British life, so she is today the personification of great-grandmotherhood. In every sense hers is a remarkable achievement. May she have many more years to enjoy it.

ENGLAND'S PLEASANT PASTURES

The decision of the environment secretary, Chris Patten, in the apparently small matter of Donnington village in Berkshire, will be of significance not just for British planning but for the fate of the whole "post-agricultural" British landscape. He is being asked by a landowner to permit a new settlement in open country near Newbury. This request contradicts local and national planning principles which state that, other things being equal, new building should take place within or adjacent to existing settlements. The reason for this principle is admirable: to avoid ribbon development despoiling ever more of Britain's open space.

The argument of the landowner, James Gladstone, is seductive, as is that used by most building developers. The area, he says, is no longer needed for agriculture, from which government is encouraging farmers to escape. What better use for it, says Mr Gladstone, than to build houses there? Not only are they needed, but the profit from them will enable him to maintain his stately home, Donnington Grove.

Mr Gladstone goes further. He has cleverly employed a fashionable architect, John Simpson, favoured by conservationists for his proposals for the St Paul's Cathedral precinct and London Bridge City near Tower Bridge. Mr Simpson has designed a "classical" village which would be surrounded by woodland and a "common", barely visible and an out-and-out "common". Such is the quality of modern (or post-modern) British architecture, says Mr Gladstone, that the unthinkable can now safely be done.

Such is the quality of modern (or post-modern) British architecture, says Mr Gladstone, that the unthinkable can now safely be done. The English landscape is under far greater pressure than that of France or Germany. It is intricate, fragile, vulnerable — and vulnerable above all to exceptions to the rules. Donnington must not come to pass.

Such planning gain now threatens to gobble up the countryside in synthetic suburbanisation, in an uninterrupted sequence of golf courses, theme parks, architect-designed villages with motorways linking them all together. There is plenty of space within and around existing settlements, as there is plenty of land (much of it publicly owned) within towns, for developers and their architects to exercise their talents. There is no "need" to despoil the countryside. Where towns can be renewed time and again, the countryside, once built over, is lost to public enjoyment. The English landscape is under far greater pressure than that of France or Germany. It is intricate, fragile, vulnerable — and vulnerable above all to exceptions to the rules. Donnington must not come to pass.

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UN's opportunity for action over Iraq invasion

From Lady Fox

Sir, The purpose of the United Nations Organisation is to maintain international peace and security and to that end to take effective collective measures for the suppression of aggression. By unanimous vote of its 14 members the Security Council in its resolution of August 2 has made a determination that there exists a breach of the peace and security as regards the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Article 42 of the UN Charter authorises the Security Council to consider economic measures inadequate, to take such action by air, sea or land forces as may be necessary to restore international peace and security. By article 43 all UN members undertake to make available to the Security Council on its call and in accordance with special agreements, armed forces, assistance and facilities including rights of passage necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security. Article 47 provides for a military staff committee composed of the chiefs of staff of the permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Great Britain, USA, USSR) to coordinate the application of armed force by the Security Council.

By reason of the Cold War and the USSR's veto no such special agreements have been concluded by UN member states and no collective military action by decision of the Security Council has ever been taken. Fear of loss of sovereignty of armed force has deterred states from committing themselves to joint collective peace-keeping measures against territorial annexation by force.

The present international outrage should be seen as a unique opportunity to implement the UN Charter's procedures for collective military measures against territorial annexation by force and to demonstrate, once and for all, to dictators like President Saddam Hussein that territorial aggression and political aggrandisement by force cannot succeed. To do so will provide the international community (particularly the smaller states) with the effective law enforcement power which it has long lacked and which minimum considerations of order, law and justice require.

Yours faithfully,
HAZEL FOX (Editor),
The British Institute of International and Comparative Law, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, WC1.

Experts reflect on errors in the Craig-Bentley case

From Mr John Parris

Sir, I am the only one of those involved in the 1952 Craig and Bentley case still alive, apart from Craig himself. I appeared for him at the trial. I am delighted that Bernard Levin (article, July 30) has taken an interest in the case.

Before I too die, I would like to make three important points about the case:

1. My client, Christopher Craig, aged 16, told me that after Bentley, aged 19, had been arrested, the police sent him across the rooftop to try and get the gun from Craig. He went and when within ten feet of Craig, Craig threatened to shoot him.

I told my client that I did not propose to adduce this in evidence since it showed him in a bad light but I sought his consent and obtained it to tell Frank Cassells, Bentley's defence counsel, about it so that he could elicit this in cross-examination. This I did. Frank failed to make use of this, which clearly showed that, far from inciting Craig to shoot, Bentley could not have fitted Craig's gun, but could have been fired from a police revolver.

2. The words "Let him have it, Chris" were never spoken by Bentley. They come from the only previous case of joint liability this century, where the words used, and which convicted and hanged the one who did not do the killing, were "Let him have it, he's alone".

3. Far from urging clemency for Bentley, which was the lie told by Lord Goddard in his old age to a journalist, he wrote a letter to Maxwell Fife — then known to the Bar as "the nearest thing to death in life" — in which he urged him to have Bentley executed. This is, no doubt, one of the reasons why the papers regarding the case are not to be released under the 30-year rule but only after 75 years.

There are a vast number of other matters known to me about this case, including the deliberate deception of defence counsel by the police and the then Director of Public Prosecutions, which merit public attention.

The refusal to release the relevant papers until after 75 years indicates that the Home Office has certain knowledge that the execution of Derek Bentley was judicial murder.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PARRIS,
PO Box 8, Carterton, Oxford.

July 30.

From His Honour Anthony Babington

Sir, My only connection with the Craig and Bentley trial is that 36 years ago I assisted the late H. Montgomery Hyde in writing a book about it. Bernard Levin, in his article on July 30, says there is now "more and more evidence" that Bentley never uttered the words "let him have it, Chris", and further, "it is claimed that the bullet which killed PC Miles could not have fitted Craig's gun, but could have been fired from a police revolver".

I think we should be slow to condemn the trial as a miscarriage of justice, as Mr Levin does, until this new evidence is revealed and can be assessed.

Craig and Bentley were tried at the Central Criminal Court in December, 1952. Lord Goddard, the trial judge, in his direction on law to the jury told them that they should only convict Bentley if they decided that he had known Craig was armed and that there had been an agreement to resist apprehension by force.

As regards the bullet which killed PC Miles, Craig was armed with a .45 Colt revolver. When he was arrested all six chambers were filled, four with spent cartridges and two with mis-fired rounds. A forensic scientist testified that all the bullet-casings which were recovered at the scene were .45 bullets except one, and even that could have been fired from Craig's revolver.

The medical evidence showed that Miles was killed by a bullet which had entered his head immediately above the left eye-brow. The prosecution witness spoke of Miles being shot at close range as he was moving towards Craig. Bentley in his statement wrote that he saw Craig firing at Miles, who immediately dropped with a lot of blood on his face. Craig himself said this in his evidence with regard to the killing, "I thought someone was rushing at me and I fired (a shot) to frighten him away". He claimed to have fired nine shots in all.

There was no suggestion at the trial either that a second shot had been heard, or that the moment PC Miles was killed or that any of the police who were then in the vicinity were armed.

Yours faithfully,

ANTHONY BABINGTON,
3 Gledhow Gardens,

Kensington, SW5.

August 1.

From Mr Andrew Bryson

Sir, It is tempting, but misleading, to see the death of Ian Gow, MP, as presented as a case of the IRA versus democracy (editorial, July 31). What *The Times* would call democracy is lacking in the region the IRA is fighting about.

The Catholic alienation which fuels the IRA is directly linked to the 70-year-old boycott of Northern Ireland by the Labour and Conservative parties. The latter has begun to dismantle its boycott, thanks partly to the influence of Ian Gow, a role which has gone unmentioned in the press tributes.

But only when both parties of state are fully accountable to the people of the province will we be in a position to argue with the IRA about democracy, as distinct from self-determination.

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW BRYSON
(London Secretary, Institute for Representative Government in Northern Ireland).

16 Northampton Park, NW1.

August 1.

From Mrs Bridget Frist

Sir, When the Inner London Education Authority handed over to the London boroughs on March 31 they took the trouble to send a certificate of appreciation to all teachers working for them.

Oh that their appreciation had extended to passing on the required information to our new employers, so that they could pay us our full wages. I have been battling since May with the Borough of Lambeth and still, after numerous phone calls, my fourth visit and many promises, am short of nearly £2,000.

Yours faithfully,

BRIDGET ROBBIE,
The Garden Cottage,

Downe Court, Downe,

Nr Orpington, Kent.

July 25.

Education funds

From Councillor C. J. Vereker

Sir, In trying to prove that not enough funds are being released from central education departments to schools Mr D. Lefae (July 26) highlights the dangers of oversimplifying statistics.

Of the total of 7,534 people shown in Warwickshire's community charge circular as working in education, all but 473 work in schools and colleges (those who do not include the youth and careers services). Moreover, of the increase of 50 non-teaching staff, 43 work in schools. Of the remaining seven, four are for government-funded posts.

Yours faithfully,

MARGOT THOMPSON
(Honorary Secretary),

The Prayer Book Society,

St James' Garlickhythe,

Garlick Hill, EC4.

July 26.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Restrictions on right to roam

From the Chairman of the Open Spaces Society

Sir, The Government, in its statement on common land (report July 27, later editions) has broken its party's 1987 manifesto pledge. The promise was to "legislate to safeguard common land on the basis of the Common Land Forum". Last week's statement was *contrary* to the forum's report.

The forum recommended a public right to roam on all the 1.3 million acres of common in England and Wales, subject to commonsense regulations and by-laws as part of a management scheme overseen by an association comprising the owners, commoners and local authorities. If a management association wanted a scheme outside the forum's model it would apply to the secretary of state, who would have to be satisfied that the peculiar circumstances of that common justified a special scheme.

But the Government has not endorsed the forum's national right to roam. Instead it stresses the circumstances in which access may be restricted, for "conservation" or "other existing uses". These are euphemisms for the handful of grouse-moor owners who have vociferously fought access ever since the forum proposed it.

The Government wants management associations to agree restrictions on access locally, instead of referring them to the secretary of state. The public will have no chance to object, and we will

Changing face

White for the boys in blue

For at least a decade Hampshire county council has been the front-runner in public architecture, consistently producing new buildings and adapting old ones with imagination and flair. Nowhere are these talents seen to better advantage than at the new 43-acre police training headquarters at Netley, on the east bank of Southampton Water, which cost almost £20 million and was opened last month by the Duchess of York.

Here, until the 1960s, stood one of the grandest hospitals in the country, stretching a quarter of a mile, with its own quay, railway, laundry, school, workshops and even a gasworks. During the second world war American soldiers took to driving Jeeps along the endless corridors. Earlier, the Royal Victoria Hospital was a sanatorium for soldiers returning shattered from the Crimea. Florence Nightingale, however, considered that architectural pomp had been put before the needs of the invalids.

When the hospital closed in the 1960s, all the buildings were demolished except for the clock tower and the psychiatric block, Victoria House, the only mental hospital ever built by the British Army.

The first phase of the new police headquarters comprised a glazed atrium in the courtyard of the old block, supported on tubular columns which branched out with the grace of Gothic fan-vaulting. Next, Ian Templeton, the head of design at the county architect's department, blended in a large new block of laboratories for the fraud squad, a colour photographic processing unit, a technical services unit, a scene-of-crime department, and a major incidents emergency suite.

Each department insisted on being at ground level and the result was a block of solid building with a footprint considerably larger than the original Victoria House. Everyone is used to seeing conservatories and white marques on spreading lawns, and this image was the key to Mr Templeton's solution. "Everyone exclaims: 'What on earth is this?'" says David Hopwood, the superintendent in charge. But after the initial shock most people like the blend of old and new. Mr Templeton thinks the idea of an all-white building "may have come from seeing a vast roof all covered in snow".

As the block of buildings is so large and dense it had to be top lit. The county architects long ago abandoned flat roofs but economy dictated the cheapest

possible parallel gables — in effect, little more than a warehouse. Mr Templeton was able to break the mould by choosing a beam system of German origin, Viereck, on which the entire weight of the roof is supported at the apex on long, deep beams. When the sun shines from east to west, the light falls on the beams rather than the people below. The beams are, in turn, carried on columns about 30 to 40 yards apart, so that walls and partitions can be moved as needs change.

On the west front, the beams project like bows beyond the gable ends. Initially, the intention was to sculpt the ends in the likeness of the county's chief constables. Budget considerations eliminated such flourishes, as well as the coloured glass intended for the end windows. But these windows are none the less intriguingly anthropomorphic, with the hint of faces with small panes like eyes at the sides and rounded chins.

Further movement is created by stepping the gable ends back and forth like a series of organ pipes, the interplay heightened by the protruding trellis walls, planted inside with large yews.

Inside, the new Palmerston block as it is called, is laid out round a series of glass-topped walkways with shingle gardens and islands, planted in the Japanese manner. The aim is to emulate the luxurious green courtyards and walkways at the county's college of technology at Farnborough. More contentious is the new gymnasium block, already dubbed the "bottlebank". The architect, Huw Thomas, is now in private practice winning bouquets for his accomplished barn conversions. Here he was determined to dispense with the usual ugly gymnasium box, hence the sloping roofs. The facilities are first class. What jars are the strident exterior colours — virulent pea and bottle green, which clash with each other even more than with the countryside around. Thought is being given to toning down one of the colours. It cannot happen too soon.

Hampshire police staff spend one or two days each month training here. "The aim," Mr Hopwood says, "is to create an atmosphere where people no longer feel forced to attend but want to come."

The money spent on the building has meant cuts elsewhere, for example on improvements to police stations. But in creating a single complex for the whole county, Hampshire hopes to recoup some of the cost by inviting other forces to use it.

MARCUS BINNEY

The cost eliminated sculpting the beam ends in the likeness of chief constables

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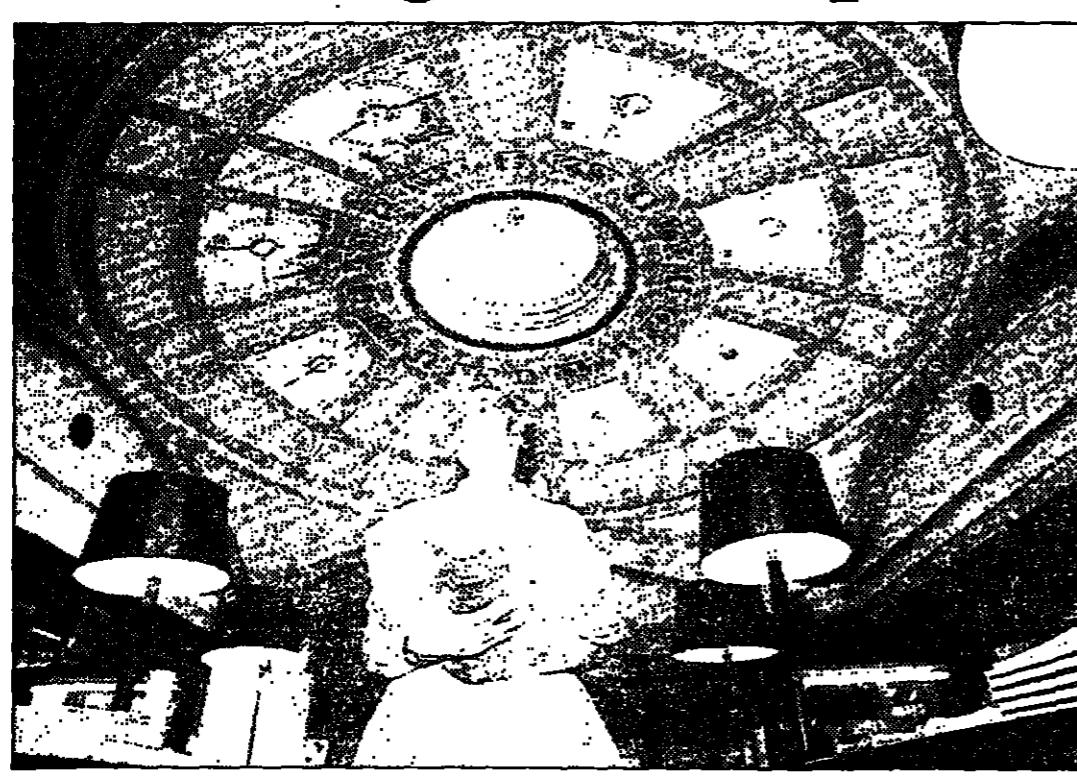
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MARCUS BINNEY

Walking tall in a £20 million temple of anti-crime: the new Hampshire police training headquarters alongside Southampton Water



Starting new chapters



Cautious optimism: "Our chances of surviving are better," says the association secretary, Janet Allen

Subscription libraries are gaining a higher profile, and not just because of their books

"Because they have been so well read for over 100 years, a huge number of the volumes need conservation and re-binding. Here in Manchester, the early industrial pollution meant that acidity in the air made the paper very brittle."

"We remove the binding, then wash each page separately in a special solution that cancels out the acidity. It's a slow process. Straightforward jobs we send out; difficult restoration we do here."

The largest and most famous of the group is the London Library, in St James's Square, with one million volumes. The Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution has internationally famous collections of Samuel Coleridge, John Betjeman and of London history.

In Belfast, the Linen Hall Library, operating from a former linen warehouse, has an impressive Irish and local-studies collection and publishes a literary quarterly, *The Linen Hall Review*.

The Leeds Library, founded in 1768, is the oldest in the association and is now sited in an 1808 classical building. Tavistock Subscription Library is the smallest, housed in a restored medieval gateway with just 1,500 books.

In Nottingham the Subscription Library is in a 1752 townhouse enclosed by a walled garden, in Penzance it is set in 3.5 acres of

semi-tropical gardens. The Devon and Exeter Institution, in Exeter, has a mass of books, newspapers and maps relating to the south-west.

Amenities at the Birmingham and Midlands Institute range from a theatre seating 300 to facilities for art exhibitions and banquets. In Newcastle upon Tyne, the Literary and Philosophical Society, founded in 1793, is home to 14,000 books, many of them old and rare, but much of the stock in Plymouth Proprietary Library was destroyed during the blitz, along with its original elegant building. The collection has been re-built and re-housed.

Manchester's Portico Library is housed in a Georgian building with a domed and pillared interior, containing 25,000 books, mainly 19th century. Members can still dine in the reading room.

There is particular pride in the collection of first editions by Elizabeth Gaskell, the Manchester novelist, whose husband William was chairman of the Portico for more than 30 years. Mrs Allan says: "The public library service is becoming rundown, some libraries shutting on certain days during the week and most unable to afford as many books. More people are becoming aware of us and we will be campaigning for further financial help."

"Although we are still under threat there is now a fair better chance of our surviving to look after both the libraries and all those beautiful books, many of which are the only copies existing in public collections outside the British Library."

BERNARD SILK

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

● Summer in the City: Week-long festival begins today with a free family day — music, dancing, games, Punch and Judy, Rubik competitions. Events suitable for children aged 2-11 and parents. Fireworks on last day at 10.30pm. Barbican Centre, London EC2, until Aug 11. Tomorrow 12.30pm, then daily from 11am, free. Workshops £1, £2 (further information 071-638 4141, ext 218).

● Bristol harbour regatta: Annual rally of more than 250 pleasure boats from regional boat clubs. Continuous programme of events and displays in and around the harbour. Bristol city docks, today 1-10pm, tomorrow 1-6pm, free.

● Eisteddfod steam and country show: Steam engines, traditional and country crafts, pastimes and skills and a variety of other entertainments. Crystal Palace National Centre, London SE20, today 9am-6pm, tomorrow 9.30am-5.30pm, £1.

● Nottingham riverside and organ festival: Street fair, barrel organ, jazz, street theatre and, tonight at 10.30pm, a fireworks display. Trent Park, Barnet, today, tomorrow 11am-6pm, £2.50, child £1.50.

NEXT WEEK

● The Mapapa Acrobats: Kenya's famous entertainers on their first visit to Britain. Victoria Embankment and city

streets, Nottingham, today noon to 11pm, tomorrow 2-10pm, free.

●

Open air

Scottish

dancing:

Groups and societies show their talents. Also Highland dancing bands, and a piper.

Paternoster Square, London EC4, today and each Saturday until Aug 25, 6.30-8pm (information 0372 724487).

●

Bristol

harbour

regatta:

Annual

rally

of

more

than

250

pleasure

boats

from

regional

boat

clubs.

Continuous

programme

of

events

and

displays

in

and

around

the

harbour.

●

Great

British

beer

festival:

CAMRA's

national

festival.

Pub

games

and

live

music

in

the

evening.

Brighton Metropole Hotel, King Road, Brighton, Sussex, Tue-Fri during normal pub opening hours.

●

Dream

merchants:

Important

exhibition

(on loan

from

the

International

Museum of Photography in New York) about the making and selling of films in Hollywood's golden age.

Museum of the Moving Image, South Bank, London SE1 (071-923 3535), Thurs until Sept 12.

JUDY FROSHAUG

Help: James Willing, personal caterer

Easy living in the grand manner



JOHN MANNING
Table manners: James Willing, taking the worry out of entertaining

cleaning and tidying and other preparation yourself."

If the weekend staff cannot be accommodated on site, they will find lodgings nearby and return at 7am or Saturday morning with the day's newspapers, ready to serve a traditional English breakfast, or an American breakfast with fruit from your own orchard, or something much more elaborate.

"It's up to the client to decide what they want, and we offer

Swimming as nature intended

A quick dip into the options for pool and beach-haters

AS THE temperature soars, the dream of recapturing those magic moments of childhood, splashing about in ponds, rivers, canals and lakes, becomes ever more seductive.

But in an increasingly sanitised, security-obsessed society, it is difficult to find anything other than a chlorinated local swimming pool in which to cool down on a scorching afternoon. The natural places still exist, of course, but many of them are no-go areas, covered by by-laws and health warnings. The ones where swimming is officially allowed frequently have lifeguards on duty and routine pollution checks.

The three famous ponds in north London — Highgate Pond (for men), Kenwood Pond (for women) and Hampstead Pond (mixed bathing) — are checked monthly to ensure that they conform to EC guidelines on natural bathing ponds. They also have their own lifeguards. Entry is free and the ponds are open all week.

Also in London is the Serpentine in Hyde Park. Members of

The main lake of the Serpentine in Hyde Park is currently affected by the epidemic of blue-green algae. The statue of Queen Victoria in the main lake, which is now affected by blue-green algae. There is, however, a hide area which is chlorinated and open from May to September at a cost of £2 for adults, £1 for children.

In Oxford the public can swim in three small tributaries of the Thames at Wolvercote, Tumbling Bay and Longbridges. Woods were separate from other river users.

In Sutton Park, Birmingham, swimmers sometimes take a dip in Bracebridge Pool, despite notices prohibiting them from doing so. Since it is regularly used by a local swimming club, however, it is not always possible to keep the public out. The local council prefers swimmers to swim in the unlitidied in the park. Cost £1.20/adults, 60p/children.

For those who live on the coast but hate beaches, there are dozens of natural rock pools tucked away, such as the one at the south end of Whitby Bay in Tyne and Wear.

One of the problems of bathing in natural waters is the risk of drowning as a result of the shock induced by sudden cold, according to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Even during heatwaves the temperature beneath the surface can be "paralytically cold".

<p

WEEKEND LIVING: OUT OF TOWN

Retreating to country calm

Home from home:
Caroline Jackson

Caroline Jackson, the Conservative MEP for Wiltshire, says she sometimes feels as if she lives at Heathrow Airport. She flies to Brussels, where she rents a one-room flat, at least twice a month for committee meetings, and stays in a hotel in Strasbourg during the one week each month that the European Parliament sits.

She also shares a two-bedroom Victorian flat in Westminster with her husband Robert Jackson, the Conservative MP for Wantage who until recently was the minister for higher education and science and was made employment minister in the last reshuffle. There she spends the weekdays when she is in England and maintains what she considers a vital office and political base.

Almost every weekend — and during parliamentary recesses — she escapes to the calm of a retreat the couple have established over the past six years in the Oxfordshire countryside where their constituencies overlap.

"Everything here is fake," says the MEP who is the environment and consumer protection representative in the Conservative group. The murals in the circular reception hall and the dining room of the 18th-century building are what might be termed "nouveau neo-classical", painted by a friend to include the Jackson's cat and their favourite birds and flowers.

The statues which adorn every nook and cranny come from moulds made from great classical works and the paintings are unabashed copies of Old Masters. The "malachite" fireplace is one of many *trompe-l'oeil* paintwork illusions, like the intricately carved "wooden" masterpiece which is really painted plaster.

"In the period in which the house was built everyone had fakes, so why shouldn't we? None of these things would be available to people of our means otherwise," Mrs Jackson says.

The dramatic interior design, Mrs Jackson makes clear, is all down to her husband, who has "strong ideas" — and original ones — about what he wants and will go to great lengths to seek it out or to create it. "I just live in it, enjoy it and tend the vegetable garden."

For her, the house is a cocoon from the whirlwind which is her life the rest of the week. Here she can play the grand piano, to accompany her husband's singing,



Party tricks: Caroline Jackson, MEP, is passionate about gardening and statues — most of which come from "an atelier in Brussels"

taking long walks in the surrounding countryside, and indulge her passion for gardening in the landscaped grounds where giant busts of ancient goddesses glare at the unsuspecting from around every corner and a magnificent naked man looks down at an ornamental fish pond.

"We get most of our statuary in the same atelier in Brussels that Robert discovered when he was there as an MEP, and that I have since visited regularly."

The six-bedroomed country house (18th century with an early 19th century addition that nearly doubles the space) gave the Jacksons scope, for the first time, to collect the unusual artefacts they love. One enormous room — which can cope with 100 for constituency parties and 100 for musical evenings — contains the

which she acknowledges is "the one place where the design of the house completely collapses".

"We felt it was important to have somewhere in the constituency that could be used for entertaining and we do quite a lot here," Mrs Jackson says. "We had a Euro-garden party recently, and one day we had every level of government here, MEPs, MPs, county councillors, district councillors and about 70 parishioners."

Each of the Jacksons has a study; Mr Jackson is learning classical Greek in his on the ground floor, while Mrs Jackson bashes out papers on unsafe bathing beaches and the enforcement of EC legislation on food safety on the word processor in hers on the first floor, a room

for five. "Robert and I still wear the grey and red school socks that we found when we moved in — and we discovered some anxious revision notes stuffed in cupboards," Mrs Jackson says.

Mrs Jackson, from Penzance, and Mr Jackson, from South Africa, met at Oxford University where they read history. She has an Oxford doctorate and was a Research Fellow at St Hugh's College, Oxford, and he a Fellow at All Souls. She learned her Greek the traditional way, she teases. "He's trying to do it in two weeks."

The house had been a prep school for many years before they bought it and had stood derelict for five. "Robert and I still wear the grey and red school socks that we found when we moved in — and we discovered some anxious revision notes stuffed in cupboards," Mrs Jackson says.

She regards her home as an oasis of tranquillity. "It's always a great relief to get back. I wouldn't ever want to move from here."

Feather report

Flying off at a tangent

YOU know where you are with birds of prey. At least, I always thought so. But I have just returned from my hole in Africa with my faith in their reliability shattered.

Birds of prey are fliers: that is what they are supremely adapted for. They fly about and drop on things from above: a straightforward and rather satisfying way of making a living.

Different birds of prey do it in slightly different ways. Peregrines crash on to flying birds; kestrels hover and drop like spitfires. Vultures soar and alight on carcasses; ospreys and fish eagles pounce on fish. The snake eagles of Africa have cornered the snakey end of the market and eat little else; they have evolved scaly legs as protection from bites, and poisonous and non-poisonous snakes are alike to them.

In England, the marsh harrier quarters the reed beds on wings lifted in a shallow V and drops on its prey from above. So, when I saw a typical harrier over Lake Kariba on the Zambia/Zimbabwe border, I naturally assumed that it earned its living in the normal harrier fashion.

I was in a canoe at the time, threading my way through a maze of drowned trees. Lake Kariba is



Robin Jacques

man-made, only 28 years old, and everywhere shallow enough is a half-submerged forest of dead mopane trees.

This harrier was already familiar: I had seen several of its kind. It was the commonest bird of prey to be seen, apart from the fish eagles. It was called a gynogene.

I watched it fly over the canoe and glide down on to one of the dead trees. Then it did something so bizarre that I could hardly believe what I was watching. It landed and then hugged the tree with its wings. Its head vanished inside the tree.

Birds of prey don't hug trees, I knew, but that one did. The reason

why it did so opens the great Pandora's Box of evolution — if, you like, the meaning of life.

For the gynogene, although a super-tier like all harriers, does not live the conventional harrier's life. It is a specialist tree-hugger. This bird has given up quartering the ground and dropping on prey. Instead, it has become a poker and climber. The gynogene lives on all the delightful things you can find in cracks and crevices: reptiles, amphibians, nestlings, small mammals, insects and birds' eggs. It seems to use its wings more for balance than for grip when it goes into its tree-hugging routine.

Hole-nesting birds are a special

delicacy and the gynogene has a strange adaptation all the better to eat them with. It has extra long double-jointed legs with which it reaches into holes, around corners, and grabs the nestlings out one by one. It can bend 150° forward and 40° back, and there is a fair amount of lateral movement as well. The only hole-nester safe from the gynogene is the hornbill, which walls up its nest with mud as a defence.

Gymnogenes can walk upside-down on branches; hang upside-down for ages. They are bold enough to grab swallow chicks from nests beneath the eaves of houses. They have a specially small head that can reach into an impossibly narrow crack.

What they have done is to claim a vacant ecological niche. No other bird is capable of earning its living the gynogene way. The bird's uniqueness is what has enabled it to survive and prosper. That is how evolution — life — operates: a fundamental principle that the gynogene demonstrates to perfection. On Lake Kariba it prospers, I suspect, as never before. I have no doubt that the reason there are so many gymogenes is because there are so many dead trees: millions of them, all of them a mass of cracks and crevices. No other bird can exploit them as well.

With Lake Kariba, man has created a gynogene heaven, and with it a gynogene glut. Eventually the mopane trees will rot down and disappear, and when that happens, the gynogene numbers will fall away. That is tough on the gynogenes — but that, after all, is life is it not?

SIMON BARNES

NEXT WEEK

• Magic Flute: Open-air opera by the Beaufort Opera Company. Brownsea Island, Poole Harbour, Dorset, Mon-Sun, nightly 7.30pm. £6. child £3. includes ferry (tickets bookable on 0202 707744).

• Heavy horse working day: See Suffolk ponies at work and look at the many rare breeds of animals — cattle, sheep, goats, hens, pigs, ponies and horses. Also a dairy museum, childrens play areas, cream teas, free-range produce shop.

• Children's fun day: Kite-flying throughout the afternoon. Bring your own or buy one on site. Blakeney Friary Hills, Norfolk. Thurs 1-5pm (further information 0263 740480)

• Highland bird watching: Visit the most popular RSPB reserve and you may still be able to see osprey nesting sites. Information warden on hand, public observation post with video camera. Aberdulais Falls, Aberdulais, near Neath, West Glamorgan. Thurs 6.30-8pm (further information 0639 636674).

• Aberdulais open evening: Explore a famous South Wales waterfall and an important archaeological site. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Aberdulais Falls, Aberdulais, near Neath, West Glamorgan. Thurs 6.30-8pm (further information 0639 636674).

JUDY FROSHAUG

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

A walk on the wild side

THE wildlife of Suffolk is crying out in unison: "Juliet, Juliet, wherefore art thou Juliet?" In this intensive farming area, the wildlife firmly believes that she is one of their few friends. And Juliet Hawkins, young and lovely, returns their devotion. She is our Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, known less romantically as FWAG. Each county has one, paid for with a species-rich mixture of cash, conscience money from the agro-chemical industry, a grant from the Countryside Commission and others, and old-fashioned fund-raising. Last weekend, the Suffolk branch held a hog roast: the pig presumably happy to make the ultimate sacrifice to help his compatriots down in the green verges.

Ms Hawkins' job is to move the birds and bees slightly higher up the farmer's list of priorities. Since this is a county where one smallholder was recently asked to restrict the movements of his pet duck as it was threatening the neighbour's corn crop — which totalled no less than 600 acres — I would imagine that being a wildlife adviser here is like cheering for Everton in the middle of the Liverpool crowd.

I certainly foresee problems with our pond. It nestles in a quiet corner of an old meadow and though now overgrown, with a little loving care and the help of a great big digger it could become our premier wildlife haven — providing I keep the ducks off it.

Ducks, it seems, kill the insects, frogs and toads, and erode the banks with their coarse, unselective webbed feet. "Encourage the moorhens, but not the ducks," she warned me. This is all very well, but how do I explain to the uninformed and the children that I'm shooting the pretty little ducks away in the name of nature? Poor ducks. And poor me, for doesn't that put me in the same miserable class as the baron who ordered the lone duck off his land?

Normally life for Mrs Jackson is "rather like being in the commandos, with a suitcase always packed", she says, "white knickers for London, coloured for the country, embroidery for the ancient boundaries."

At the old meadow the thrills

came fast and furious as each tuft

of rough grass was declared to be

home to the most special of

butterflies. Pity, I've been promising myself for weeks to tidy that mess. I started to steer the conversation round to what I

hoped was going to be a lucrative discussion about how a few pots of gold might drift our way to replace our ripped-out hedges. But there was no peace. Ms Hawkins had seen a huge bird. She declared it to be a marsh harrier. I had thought it was a seagull.

FWAG has done great work in this county in persuading farmers that even if you factory-farm, you can always find room for the wild side of life. But the public have as much to learn as the farmers. Take my 200-year-old hedge, of which I am rather fond. It is largely spiky blackthorn to dissuade stock from barging through it, and over the years a wealth of wild roses has twined into it.

When I asked how best to care for it, I was advised "to cut it down to within four inches of the ground". A conservationist calls it coppicing and can get away with such behaviour: a casual observer might call it vandalism. In fact, Ms Hawkins told me of an old man who, complete with hedger's traditional tools, was doing a splendid job of coppicing a farm hedge. He gave up when too many tourists accused him of blighting the countryside.

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Problems, problems. Nobody could be keener than me to fill up every inch of his hedges with wildlife, but the course of true love never did run smooth.

Breeding

Toys on four legs



Small equine wonder: Tikki Adorian with one of her miniature horses

"WELCOME to Toy Town" says a minute sign, entirely appropriate for the Lilliputian world of Toyhorse International, the Sussex stud where Tikki Adorian's British-bred Miniature Horses reign supreme.

The newest arrival is a week-old colt, 18in high, whose mother, Lucky Gem — a skewbald, or pinto in American terminology — lumps over her foal by 16in. The American influence is strong, since the American Miniature Horse Association is the only registry dealing with true miniatures of 34in and under.

Gymnogenes can walk upside-down on branches; hang upside-down for ages. They are bold enough to grab swallow chicks from nests beneath the eaves of houses. They have a specially small head that can reach into an impossibly narrow crack.

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Shie did not set out to breed them. "It all started with Hurtwood Romany, who was bought as a pet." He was followed by Edwina, and from the two pure breeds came a long line of miniature horses.

NOW Toyhorse International is probably the largest stud of its kind in Europe, currently selling 80 to 100 foals a year. "It's rather fun to know that the Toyhorse prefix is known world-wide," Mrs Adorian says. At the stud's first production sale last year, 50 miniature horses were auctioned. The second annual sale will take place on October 20, when Mrs Adorian hopes to set a new record. Her Toyhorse Trade sold in 1988 for \$20,000, which is the current record price for a Shetland pony.

At this year's sale, prices are likely to start at around 450 guineas. "Our prices are nothing by American standards," says Mrs Adorian, who has many American customers. "There, an American miniature horse recently fetched \$15,000 in October."

Through the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society, the pedigree reaches back as far as 1870. "The Americans have some very fine ones, but mine are 100 per cent British Miniatures," Mrs Adorian says. It is important to know that American and British ways of measuring can differ, she adds: "in Britain we measure from the wither bone, while the American measurement is from the base of the neck."

Miniatures of any colour are accepted for the international registry, and all colours other than spotted are included in the Shetland registry. Miniature Shetlands also register at under 34in.

Miniature horses should be treated like any others when it comes to feeding and stabling.

more refined animals," she says.

Refined miniature horses are fine boned, incorporating the "draft" type into the overall elegant little horse. The breed objective is the smallest possible perfect horse, featuring symmetry, strength, agility and alertness. Manes and tails are lustrous and silky. One of the stud sires, Toyhorse Alpine Boy, which stands at 30½in, is a white/grey pinto who carries his head lightly, typifying the refined type of miniature horse.

After this October's sale the stud numbers will revert to their customary winter quota of about 220, but private sales take place all year round. Buyers often arrive without warning from as far afield as Australia, apparently undeterred by travelling and quarantine costs amounting to about £2,000 for each miniature horse.

SANDY BISP

• Toyhorse International is holding an open day on September 2, which is expected to draw 4,000 visitors. For further information contact the stud at Hawick Farm, The Haven, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9SQ (0403 72 2639).

SHOPAROUND

◆ FAMILY • HEALTH NEWS ◆

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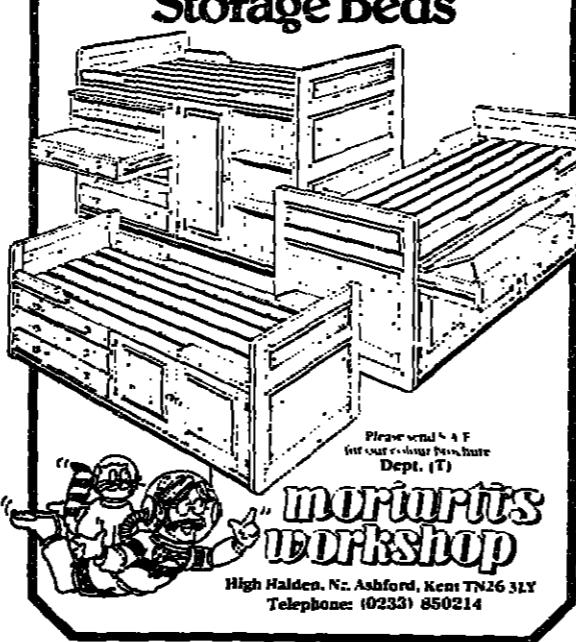
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Something to spout about



Have fun with the tea set: (clockwise from top left) fish teapot, £24.99, from Presents, 129 Sloane Square, London SW1; tea-time teapot, £39.95, Liberty; shell teapot, £39.95, Liberty; Rosenthal's art deco-style teapot, £65.40 from Liberty; summer flowers teapot by Annie Doherty, £25, from Liberty; rose teapot by Mary Rose Young, £150, from Liberty

ASSETS

Hundreds of teapots, many of them eccentric, are being gathered in London for a two-month exhibition. The display includes designer one-offs, traditional and contemporary pots, cups, and tea-associated accessories.

The exhibition at Liberty's, Regent Street, from August 17, also features pieces from the Spode, Wedgwood, and Royal Worcester museums, which are not for sale but show the development of tea-taking.

There is, too, a collection of more than a hundred teapots commissioned from British potters, including one in the shape of the Liberty building (£50, by Katie Bunnell).

Other teapots include colourful Italian versions shaped like fruit and vegetables, classic Oriental teapots in cast iron, blue and white ceramics, and Yixing ware (plain terracotta pots in unusual shapes) much sought after in the Far East.

Kitsch British bone china in

lurid pinks and gold-rimmed purples, snapped up by Japanese and American collectors, is also on sale, along with Liberty print cosies, linens, trays and cloths.

A tea shop sells a variety of brews for shoppers to sample, while a Mad Hatter's tea party is likely to draw children of all ages.

Liberty's new own-label tea is distinctively packaged in striped purple and cream caddies and packets, and comes from the eminent growers, Williamson and Major. The five blends — pure Darjeeling, pure Assam, English Breakfast, Earl Grey and jasmine — cost £3.50 for 125g sold loose in a caddy, £3.95 for 125g sold as 50 bags in a caddy, and £1.75 for 125g of loose tea in a packet.

Anyone interested in starting or adding to a teapot collection could visit Bettjemian & Barton's shop at 43 Elizabeth Street, London SW1 (071-730 5086), and Chelsea Garden Market, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10 (071-823 3273), and in Brighton, Oxford, Salisbury, Winchester and Windsor. All stock a selection of teapots in unusual shapes; for example, light-houses, parking meters and a JCB 334227.

Originals: Graham Nicholson, bookbinder



Cover story: Graham Nicholson, surrounded by traditional tools, at work in his bindery in Shropshire

Between the covers

to its constituent parts." Some modern glues make this impossible and therefore, instead of using polyvinyl acetates, Mr Nicholson uses traditional hot glue.

"The book had been read to my client by her mother, and she had read it to her children. Now the time had come to read it to her grandchildren. Books which mean something to individuals can be far more important than those in the market for profit," he says.

After a year's full-time course at the London College of Printing at Clerkenwell, Mr Nicholson moved from Herefordshire to a remote cottage in Shropshire, where he built a bindery in the garden. There he can now be found at work, restoring old volumes, and housing new works in fine bindings of richly colored goatskins and English calfskins. His charge for restoring and rebinding a small book is approximately £40.

Mr Nicholson's workshop contains a variety of presses and small finishing tools which he uses for gold leaf lettering work or decoration. The traditional design of his sewing frame is the same as those used by 12th-century monks. "Everything should be reversible in bookbinding," he explains. "That means being able to undo what has been done, to take it back

neat's-foot oil, a lubricant oil obtained by boiling cattle bones. When cleaning a book he intends not to restore pristine freshness, which would ruin its provenance, but to tidy it up and put life back into the covers.

One supplier brought him a first edition copy of Charles II's diary, written after the Battle of Worcester and containing a sprig of the oak in which the monarch was said to have hidden. "By using traditional boiled sweet paste, which is decorated and spread with combs and other devices, I was able to copy the original binding," he says.

Topographical books are the book-binder's stock-in-trade. Mr Nicholson is imbuing new life into *Nooks and Crannies of Shropshire*, printed in 1899, the third copy he has tackled. A treatise on cider-making indigenous to the area is the kind of book he often comes across. His more creative work can be seen in a volume of *A History of the Great War*, with its full leather binding in two colours featuring a raised poppy on a decorated centre panel.

SANDY BISP

Graham Nicholson, Bridge Cottage, Adleymoor Common, Bucknell, Shropshire SY7 0BH (05474 616). The Society of Bookbinders and Book Restorers, Fernbank, Trottton, Petersfield, Hampshire GU31 5ER.

Graham Nicholson ensures his own cleaning and treatment methods are pure by obtaining ingredients from a chemist and mixing them to traditional recipes to produce leather dressings made of beeswax, anhydrous lanolin and

neats-foot oil, a lubricant oil obtained by boiling cattle bones. When cleaning a book he intends not to restore pristine freshness, which would ruin its provenance, but to tidy it up and put life back into the covers.

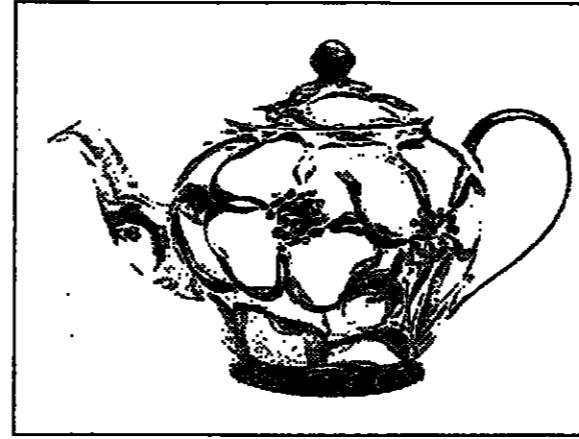
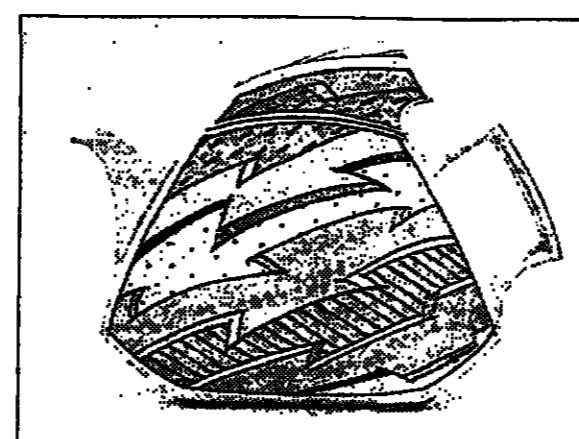
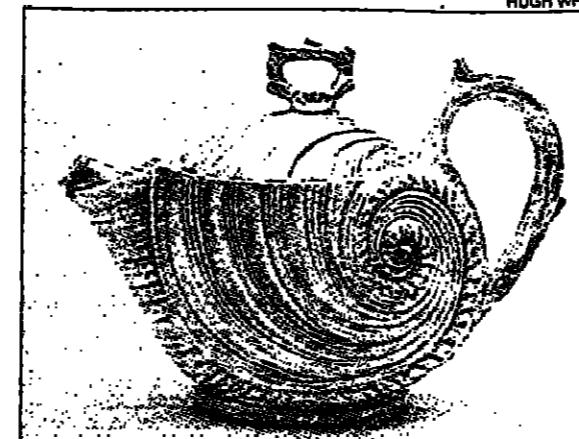
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HUGH WHITE



Take a leaf from the illustrators

If 19th century drawings are too expensive, then turn the page back 100 years

Should you wish to obtain an original E.H. Shepard "Pooh" drawing or a rabbity Beatrix Potter watercolour for the nursery wall, it would cost you an arm and several legs. The great illustrators of the turn of the century, Dulac, Rackham, Heath Robinson and the rest, have long been beyond almost all reasonable sacrifice.

The Chris Beetles Gallery in St James's, London, holds regular exhibitions of the work of book illustrators, both adult and juvenile. It is noticeable, however, that while Beetles and fellow enthusiasts have done much to boost the market in illustrators working from the middle of the last century to date, their 18th-century forerunners have mostly been ignored.

About 4,000 good impressions could be taken from a copper plate, but the introduction of steel by Albert Warren in about 1822 meant that editions of up to 30,000 became possible. It was thus worth the publishers' while to commission fewer original drawings from comparatively expensive artists.

However, the illustrators of the previous generation were immensely prolific. Thomas Stothard (1755-1834) is said to have made more than 5,000 drawings for books, and over 1,000 in more than 100 books have been counted for Samuel Hale (1721-1786).

Soothard (£230-£1,500) worked felicitously in both manners, as did Richard Cobbold (1757-1831, £185 to £250), but if you cannot afford Blake or Fuseli, then for a fraction of their prices you can acquire a piece of muscular drama by Richard Westall (£240 to £450), a fellow master of the rising eyebrow and flared nostril. Indeed, pleasant drawings and watercolours by almost all the men mentioned here can be had for £300 or less, although their best is likely to be considerably more.

A good place to begin is Abbott & Holder in Museum Street, London WC1, whose summer sale ends on Monday.

Female Sex, 1744, that a "homely touch of local genre" was introduced to the French manner. Hayman (1708-1776), a friend of Hogarth, a collaborator of Gravelot and an influence on Gainsborough, was very active as an illustrator from the 1740s to the 1770s, working in Indian ink and sepia washes. There are some spirited drawings for *Don Quixote* in the British Museum.

For a perfect match with text there can be little to compete with the drawings which Gilbert White commissioned from the Swiss-born Samuel Hieronymus Grimm (1733-1794) for the *Natural History of Selborne*, 1776, although the Shakespearean scenes of the equally splendidly named Yorkshireman Julius Caesar Ibbetson (1759-1817) come close.

Charm and elegance are also Samuel Wale's hallmarks, even when he is telling sensational or moral tales from the *Newgate Calendar*. The predominant styles of the latter part of the 18th century and the first decades of the 19th were the elegant roccoco, typified by E.F. Burney (1760-1848), and the dramatic neo-classical. The latter, of which the best-known (but not necessarily the best) practitioner was William Blake, can often be splendidly ridiculous to a modern eye.

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HUON MALLALIEU

The Tea House branches are holding special tastings of apple with cinnamon, tropical fruit with coconut and Russian tea on August 24 and 31. Unusual teas available for tasting on request include black China tea, flavoured naturally with hawks or essence of fruits and flowers, and banana, blackberry and mint teas.

And Milford of London has introduced environment-friendly unbleached tea bags for its three most popular herbal teas, available from leading health food shops at £1.65 per box of 50.

NICOLE SWENGELEY

François Hayman's work for *Fables of the*

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HUON MALLALIEU

François Hayman's work for *Fables of the*

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FINE ART

ARTS

This museum terminates here

Andrew Gibbon Williams reports on a failed attempt to create a Mecca for art lovers in a Welsh station

At the end of May, Andrew Lambert finally abandoned his two-year campaign to give Wales its own museum of modern art. And last month the movers arrived at its potential home - a disused railway station in Machynlleth - to take away what was to be the nucleus of its collection.

Lambert's scheme was ambitious, perhaps a little eccentric. The picturesque mid-Wales town of Machynlleth does not immediately suggest itself as the ideal location for a Welsh "Tate of the West". Nevertheless, it held promise. Lambert was perspicacious enough to see how - given the agreement of British Rail to upgrade the railway line - a museum at the junction of the routes from Shrewsbury to Abergavenny and Pwllheli might attract the culture tourists; they flock to the Kröller-Müller in Holland and to the Winterthur Museum in Switzerland, neither of which are city-based. In addition, a museum in Machynlleth would have helped correct the cultural imbalance in Wales between Cardiff and the rest of the country.

The scheme was well planned and detailed. The station itself was to retain its function, and visitors would, in effect, have alighted in an art gallery. The building's upper storey and lower staff offices were to be converted into galleries, and a lavish modern block was to be erected on the other side of the tracks. Even an adjacent hotel was envisaged.

Fearing his project might appear a pipe-dream, Lambert elicited the backing of Richard Rogers, architect of both the Pompidou Centre and the Lloyd's building, and the partnership of Alan Stanton and Paul Williams, designers of the Design Museum interiors.

These big guns were not his only asset. In his mother's collection of paintings, Lambert possessed the seed from which a Welsh national collection of modern art might grow. It is a small group of pictures, but the quality is high and all the right names are there: among them Augustus John, Wyndham Lewis, Stanley Spencer and L.S. Lowry. And there was nothing overly optimistic about anticipating loans and gifts: museums such as the Tate and the National Museum of Wales have been bulging with pictures which should be hanging on gallery and museum walls. A Welsh museum of modern art might well have developed - as has the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art - from a charter provided



Andrew Lambert: A museum of modern art at Machynlleth would have helped to correct the cultural imbalance in Wales

collection into one of international significance.

Lambert was not so naive as to suppose that the cultural panjandrums in Cardiff would rise up in support of his proposal and dish out the £500,000 he needed to realise it. However, he had not reckoned on the bureaucratic hurdles and apathy he encountered wherever he turned.

In short, none of the public arts bodies would touch his proposal with a barge pole.

The Welsh Office, the Welsh Arts Council and the National Museum of Wales would not agree to appoint

directors to the charitable company which he tried to set up to raise funds. From the Welsh Office's point of view, Lambert's proposal ran counter to the recommendations made in the Hudson Davies report on Housing the Arts in Wales; galleries were to be located in, or near, large conurbations, rather than set in the countryside. The Welsh Arts Council said its remit was only to help with the housing of temporary exhibitions.

And the National Museum of

Wales - which, at the time of Lambert's approach, was busy securing its own £40 million grant from the Welsh Office for its extension - was understandably less than thrilled about the possibility of some northern venture detracting from its own expansion.

Likewise, the Development Board for Rural Wales presented a brick wall:

Lambert discovered that the Board can only provide 50 per cent of the funding for

such projects once the other 50 per cent has been raised from the private sector. In the event, the Welsh business community came up with less than £500.

Compared with Scotland, Wales is poorly served by galleries. Not

only are there no separate national collections - that in Cardiff is incorporated into the National Museum of Wales - but there has been no growth of independent galleries financed in part by the Secretaries of State for Wales - the Cardiff Bay Development Scheme is the current best example - all

public fund-raising avenues are

369 Gallery, which started off as a hole-in-the-wall operation in 1979, raised a substantial amount of the several hundred thousand pounds necessary to renovate its three floors of warehouse galleries from various trusts and donations. It also receives £40,000 from the Arts Council and District Councils combined, and turns over about £20,000 to cover its annual running costs. Unlike Lambert's proposal, it is a temporary exhibition gallery, but its fund-raising zeal could have served as an object lesson to him.

Had Scotland been in the situation of Wales, the standard of its premises might well have been sufficient to house a national collection.

Anyone who has run the gauntlet of regional arts funding could have explained the impossibility of raising large capital sums through the agency of the arts quangos. Unless a project has the support of the Secretary of State for Wales - the Cardiff Bay Development Scheme is the current best example - all

public fund-raising avenues are

effectively closed. In the case of galleries, the Welsh Office is unable to fund any institution other than the National Museum of Wales.

Be that as it may, the spirit of no-can-do which the enterprising Lambert encountered from the public agencies in Peter Walker's supposedly revived principality is distinctly un- Thatcherite. It really means that without independent sources of finance, only small-scale, safe projects can get off the ground.

There may well be deeper reasons why Lambert drew a blank. Wales, unlike Scotland, has a comparatively paltry visual art tradition and nothing like the educated, middle-class caucus of collectors; the sort of people who will write a reasonably sized cheque for a worthy arts project. As the 369 Gallery in Edinburgh discovered, bodies such as the Arts Council eventually rise to the bait of embarrassment caused by bourgeois support. Ground-swells of influential opinion can have more effect on them than the brandishing of household names.

FILM FESTIVALS

Old traumas and present nightmare

David Robinson finds black America meeting post-perestroika Russia in Munich, and Israeli cinema opening old wounds

Film festivals are a peculiar phenomenon of the last quarter of a century. Forty years ago there were only three - Venice (1932), Cannes (1946) and Edinburgh (1947). In 1952, Berlin was created as a Cold War propaganda exercise; later came an Eastern bloc festival, alternating between Moscow and Karlovy Vary in 1958. London.

Today there is no certain count of the festivals which come and go like summer daisies. The American show-business journal, *Variety*, recently listed more than 252 - 48 of them in the United States alone; 28 in Italy.

The survival of a festival against such competition depends on outstanding programming or distinctive character, whether that derives from location (like the Midnight Sun Festival, inside the Arctic Circle) or theme - there is a Funny Festival in Boario and a competition of Mountain and Exploration Films in Trento.

A clever compilation film from Estonia, Olav Neuland's *Hilter and Stalin* 1939 shows the uncanny likeness of the two dictators' methods. If they had remained allies, instead of becoming enemies, history might have been different.

The Jerusalem Festival is based at the Jerusalem Cinémathèque. Both institutions are the creation of Lia and Wim Van Leer, an extraordinary couple with a single-minded dedication to movies and the people who make them. Their Cinémathèque has been made out of ancient dwellings standing in the valley that was no-man's land during the partition of the city.

Cinémathèque and festival alike do much for the liberal education of young Israelis, which sometimes gets them into trouble with orthodox fundamentalists. The introduction of Sabbath movie-going (which instantly spread to the rest of the country) caused some furore at first. This year there were grumblings in the Knesset because a new Israeli film in the festival, Daniel Wachsmann's *The Appointed*, made pointed links between faith, mysticism, magic and the messianic desires of the national culture. There was more displeasure at the Austrian Paulus Minkler's impressive adaptation of Joshua Sobol's play, *Weinger's Last Night*, based on the story of Otto Weinger - the tortured, early-century genius whose anti-feminist and anti-Semitic writings earned Hitler's praise: "The only Jew who had the right to survive."

Jerusalem was also strong on documentary. Specially notable was the West German *Mein Krieg*, directed by Harriet Eder and Thomas Kufus, in which ancient veterans of the Wehrmacht commentate on the home movies they made at Hitlerjugend camps in the Thirties, and in grimmer scenes of the war fronts in the Forties. A different view of those years was recorded in a very personal 50-minute British documentary from Channel Four, *Chasing Shadows*. Naomi Gryn, daughter of the Rabbi of the West London Synagogue, recorded her father's return, after 45 years, to his hometown of Berehovo, once belonging to Czechoslovakia, now a closed Soviet border town.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that Munich and Jerusalem are two cities in which the often-suppressed memories of 50 years ago are currently being recalled.

Whitehall farce that performs no social service

THEATRE

A Dream of People The Pit

MICHAEL Hastings's latest play is a singularly inept concoction, the more disappointing for the comic promise of its opening. In comes the prime minister (Tory, but male) to hear a senior civil servant soberly argue that Britain will soon be unable to support all its aged and infirm. The nation's leader's response is to fall sound asleep, whereupon bureaucratic protocol sensationally collapses.

Peter McEnery's Claude Godber is not content with his

quiet authority were superbly underpinned by the "Jacks": Barry Booth on piano, Peter Chapman on upright bass, Brian Markham on drums and percussion and Kate Short on cello. The group passed from swing to pop to light chamber music without faltering, as though telepathically attuned to the singer's intentions.

The songs displayed excellent taste. From Randy Newman there were "Say Away", "Dayton Ohio", "Texas Girl After the Funeral of Her Father" and "You Can Leave Your Hat On". From Lieber & Stoller came "Some Cats Know", from Joni Mitchell, "River", from Johnny Mercer, "The Weekend of a Private Secretary". One folk song, "Come All Ye Fair and Tender Ladies", was most movingly performed.

Several were not credited, although "Standing Room Only", which began with the line "You must think my bed's a bus stop", deserves wider exposure, as do "I Can Cook, Too" and "Send Me a Man Tonight". Popular but perhaps ill-advised was the inclusion of "Kitchen Man", the risqué classic which surely belongs to Bertie Read. With her more robust approach.

The between-songs chat was sometimes too highly polished or twee, but there was no faulting the sincerity and warmth of O'Hara's performance. She continues here until August 19.

TONY PATRICK

texts, and it says much for Anthony Hope's translation that most of the words are audible.

Voltaire had the action in coastal Brittany, with the Huron showing his valour in a skirmish with the English fleet. Jamie Hayes's production translates that into Buxton terms: Chatsworth House and the first world war, with the Huron related to the Duke of Devonshire. In the first act it works very well, spiced up with a fair amount of slapstick that may have surprised Voltaire but always stops just short of going right over the top.

But then slapstick takes over entirely. It is hard to be amused when an upper-class twit keeps kicking over the severely wounded. It is even harder when those antics actually drown out the two most substantial arias in the opera. Everything in the characterisation is thereby coarsened beyond belief.

Geoffrey Dolton sings and acts well in the title role. Claire Daniels copes elegantly as the heroine, supported by a witty performance from Jane Webster as her confidante. And Eric Roberts turns in a nice cameo as the Duke of Devonshire. Christopher Gillett, the anti-hero, suffers from the worst of the production. Fortunately the Manchester Camerata plays with consistent vitality under Michael Rosewell.

Yet Hastings clearly expects us to listen seriously to Godber when he laments the disappearance of "the promise of a gentle evening for us all". For an unclear reason, perhaps that he has little more to say about his career, he asks us to take equally serious interest in his marriage and his wife. It does not help that, while McEnery's Godber is mostly downtown, Parfitt hurls herself into this last role like Callas playing Medea, or Medea playing Callas. But then no one in Janet Suzman's production seems emotionally at home or ease. It is that sort of evening.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

OPERA

Le Huron Buxton

MOST musicians could hardly even name any of Grétry's 60-odd operas, so there is something wildly quixotic in staging the earliest of them to survive complete, proudly published as "opus one". Still, it is a British première, which is part of the Buxton tradition. And it comes from a story by Voltaire, who provides the theme of this year's festival.

Even in the emasculated version which Voltaire's friend Marmonet devised, the libretto has a strong theme based on the way society fails to accept the behaviour of a hero who has different and more real values. The Huron of the title grew up among the Canadian Indians; although he turned out to be a nephew of a prominent local family, his manner of courting the heroine is unacceptable until people become "enlightened" at the end. A refined and well-judged wit sugars Voltaire's hard social message.

Moreover, there is enough beautifully devised and varied detail in the score to explain how the young Grétry took Paris by storm in 1768 and began an unusually successful career. From the start, he was admired for the way his vocal lines projected the

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SATURDAY'S TELEVISION & RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND MERLE ADAM
©TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DIAVALLI**BBC 1**

- 6.40 Open University: Klein's Unification of Geometry 7.05 Classifying Surfaces Geometrically
 7.30 Playdays (r) 7.50 Muppet Babies (r)
 8.15 The 8.15 from Manchester: Young people's entertainment 11.00 Cartoon
 11.05 Film: Tail of a Tiger (1984) starring Grant Niven and Gordon Pooles. An undemanding Australian family film about a 10-year-old vintage plane fanatic. Excluded from the local model flying club meetings, he meets an old man who owns a wrecked Tiger Moth and spends his summer holidays trying to restore it. Directed by Rolf de Heer 12.27 Weather
 12.30 Grandstand introduced by Bob Wilson. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.35 and 1.05 Special Olympics: the games from Glasgow for mentally handicapped athletes: 1.00 News: 1.50, 2.20 and 3.00 Racing from Goodwood: 2.05, 2.35 and 3.15 Cycling: the National Track championships from Leicester. 4.00 Show Jumping: the World Equestrian Games from Stockholm

BBC 2

- 6.50 Open University: Maths Foundation Course 7.15 Democratic Government 7.40 Geology: From Swamps to Coal 8.05 Engineering Mechanics 8.30 Professional Judgment 8.55 Information Technology 9.20 Electromagnetic Induction 9.45 Shakespeare's King Lear 10.10 Images and Information 10.35 Technology and Change 1750-1914 11.00 Policy Making in Education 11.25 Evolution 11.50 Social Sciences 12.15 Food Production Systems 12.40 Physical Chemistry 1.05 Images and Innovation 1.30 Modern Art and Modernism 1.55 Culture and Belief in Europe 2.20 World War Stories
 2.45 Mahabharata: Episode 16 of the 91-part dramatisation of the epic Indian poem. In Hindi with English subtitles
 3.25 The Sky at Night: Titan is Saturn's largest moon. Patrick Moore is joined by Dr John Zelenicki to study the moon in more detail (r)
 3.50 Floggin' a Dead Horse. Peter Skellern provides a personal view of villages, showing how they could be places for the future and were certainly the homes of the past, but how they are not the place to live in at the present (r)
 4.20 90 Glorious Years. A tribute to the Queen Mother to celebrate her 90th birthday. Horse Guards Parade is the venue for a gala celebration, including a choir of 500 voices, a 100-strong orchestra and the Household Cavalry (r)
 5.50 World Equestrian Games. Hugh Thomas introduces coverage of the show jumping phase, after which the four top riders go through to the final round tomorrow. John and Michael Whitaker represent Britain and are likely to figure strongly
 7.05 Eyes on the Prize. The third of a series of documentaries examining the civil rights years in the United States in the early 1960s non-violent protest was instrumental in change. During the 1960 presidential election campaign, both Nixon and Kennedy approved civil rights, but were eager not to isolate the white vote in the South. When Martin Luther King Jr was placed in jail, John F. Kennedy went to his sympathies to Mrs Coretta, while

- 5.05 News with Moira Stuart. Weather 5.15 Regional News and Sport
 5.20 The Flying Doctors: Borrowed Time. Green issues intrude into the work of the flying medics of Coopers Crossing (Ceefax)
 6.05 'Allo, 'Allo! Another dose of Resistance humour from René and his friends (r) (Ceefax)
 6.30 That's Showbusiness. Mike Smith puts showbiz memories to the test in the entertainment quiz (Ceefax)
 7.00 Takeover Bid. Bruce Forsyth with the game show in which contestants gamble what they have won to get a star prize (Ceefax)
 7.30 A Royal Birthday Gala. The stars turn out to pay tribute to the Queen Mother as she celebrates her 90th birthday. Recorded at the London Palladium two weeks ago, the gala was also attended by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Margaret and Viscount Linley. The theme is the changing face of entertainment throughout the Queen Mother's nine decades. Among those taking part are Plácido Domingo, Michael Caine, Howard Keel, Sir John Gielgud, Rowan Atkinson, Sarah

- Robert Kennedy got in contact with the judges and managed to convince him to release Ken on bail. Kennedy won the narrowest presidential victory in American history, due partly to the black vote. (r)
 8.05 NewsView with Moira Stuart and Lynette Lithgow. Weather
 8.50 White Noise.
 • John Wyver's anthology of state-of-the-art video may leave the sceptical wondering where art comes into it. A pop video of the song, *Bizarre Love Triangle*, is a fair sample of the genre, a bewitching kaleidoscope of images, full of sound and fury signifying nothing very much. In some cases the artists appear beforehand and tell us what their creations are about. It is a dubious advantage. A woman from Ireland explains that her picture called *Cricket* about 'media reality and the effects on the human sub-consciousness'. It mainly consists of shots of insects crawling over human heads, rather as they used to do in early B-films. Form replaces content, style abolishes substance and technology takes over where human creativity used to rule. Even a poorly lit shot of a man talking a dog is presented as a challenging piece of surrealism. But you need to know that the dog is called Man Ray

- 9.30 Designs on Europe — Six Architects Across a Continent.
 • Michael Hopkins is that rare architect, a modernist whose work seems to be universally liked. His admirers include even the Prince of Wales. If Hopkins has any critics, they do not surface in Ray's profile, the first of a series of films on contemporary architects made by different European countries. Of the several Hopkins' creations examined, a characteristic example is the Mound Stand at Lord's, a bold tent-like structure which is very much of the late 20th century and yet fits happily with the 100-year-old pavilion. To have pleased the MCC, one of the most traditional sporting bodies in Britain, is no mean feat. The key to Hopkins' success, at Lord's as elsewhere, is that while he seeks a modern solution he is not prepared to sweep away the best of the past. Called in to freshen up the V & A, he actually returned the building to its original appearance. His

- Brightman, Warren Mitchell, Roger Moore, Cliff Richard, Anneka Rice, Stephen Fry and Sir Richard Attenborough. (Ceefax)
 10.15 News with Martyn Lewis: Sport and weather



On the gold chase: Clint Eastwood (10.35pm)

- 10.35 Film: Kelly's Heroes (1970) starring Clint Eastwood, Telly Savalas and Donald Sutherland. Crude and noisy second world war adventure about a group of soldiers who decide to steal a fortune in gold from behind enemy lines. Directed by Brian G. Hutton. (Ceefax)
 12.55am Weather

- modifications of Bracken House and Glyndebourne will be eagerly awaited



Richard Thomas and Ellen Greene (10.15pm)

- 10.15 Glory! Glory!
 • Lindsay Anderson begins his first American television movie with what is surely a conscious homage to his mentor, John Ford, as a church congregation sings 'We Shall Gather At This Mountain'. It is one of the few sincere moments in a career spanning television expansion and its obsessions with power, money and greed. The recent antics of real TV preachers have presented a formidable challenge to fictional versions but Stan Daniels's script triumphantly rewards a familiar theme. When the charismatic Reverend Dan is felled by a stroke, his son (Richard Thomas) proves to be a less than adequate successor. The formerly wealthy church is soon losing two million dollars a year. Salvation is sought through a vivacious bar singer (Ellen Greene) who, with the right financial inducement, agrees to swap rock'n'roll for *Rock of Ages*. Anderson's direction is too deliberate at times but after a slow start the momentum builds relentlessly (Ceefax)
 11.45 Film: L'Invitation (1973) starring Michel Robin, Jean-Luc Bideau and François Simon. A sleek bachelor has a change of lifestyle when he acquires an impressive country villa following the death of his mother. He invites his friends to visit for the day, but jealousies are brought to the surface. A wry, sharply-observed comedy from the Swiss-born director Claude Goretta, who also made *The Lacemaker* in French with English subtitles. Ends at 1.25am

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am
 9.25 Ghost Train. Includes guest Kelly Dingwall from Home and Away; and interviews with Paula Abdul and New Kids on the Block. Plus the usual cartoons and the Vicious Boys trying to play badminton

- 11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The Vintage Video slot features the Bangles

- 12.30 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends. Mississippi River adventures of Mark Twain's young heroes

- 1.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather

- 1.05 LWT News and weather

- 1.10 A Beads Called Reindeer: Waste and Recycling. Andrea Arnold presents the informative environmental series which aims to inspire rather than depress. Each year, if ever discarded can was plastic and end, the line would reach the moon. Very few are recycled and our throwaway society has created an enormous

- 1.40 Connection Street. Wednesday's and Friday's episodes (r)

- 2.35 International Rugby. Highlights of yesterday's Bledisloe Cup match between New Zealand and Australia in Auckland

- 3.15 Athletics. Jim Rosenthal presents

- live coverage of the Panasonic national championships from the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. Among the athletes scheduled to take part are Steve Cram, Tom McLean, John Regis and Tessie Sanderson

- 5.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather

- 5.10 Athletics. Jim Rosenthal presents

- further live coverage of the Panasonic national championships

- 5.30 Zorro: The Best Man. The masked hero continues his brave fight to protect the innocent from tyranny. The fiancée of Don Diego's cousin gets him when she eats eyes on Zorro at the Pueblo. Don has a lot of trouble convincing her that she shouldn't marry the masked rider. Starring Efrem Zimbalist Jr and Duncan Regehr

- 6.00 Champion Blockbusters. The champions of 1984. Steve Jones and Robbie Leach, return to test their general knowledge skills and take home prize money for their chosen charities. Bob Holness is the quizmaster

- 6.50 Stars in Their Eyes. Leslie Crowther invites more stars' doppelgängers to impress the audience and imitate their idols, who range from Roy Orbison to Madonna

- 7.20 It's Beadle. Jeremy Beadle is out on the prowl again, playing outrageous jokes and childish games on unsuspecting victims (r)

- 7.50 Close to Home: Double Date. Down-to-earth sitcom starring Paul Nicholas as a divorced vet left to bring up his two children. Kate and Robbie decide it is time their father had a girlfriend, so they arrange a blind date for him through a computer dating agency. Meanwhile, the surgery plays host to a dangerous rambler and Rose asks James to help sort out the custody of a cat. (Oracle)

- 8.20 The Shout: The Software Murders. Simon Callister stars as the smooth-talking police advertisement whose life continues to be a non-stop adventure. An American scientist, working on an anti-termed device, justifiably fears for her life when her name appears on a hit-list. After several

- mysterious deaths, Simon sets out to bring the murderer to justice. With Pamela Sue Martin and Linda Landen (Oracle)

- 10.10 News with Nicholas Owen. Sport and weather 10.25 LWT Weather

- 10.30 Pick of the Pilots. Denis Norden presents the best of the worst of US pilot programmes, from quizzes to astrological prediction shows

- 11.00 Splitting Image. More repeated satire from the latex puppets. Deirdre Lyman and Gerald Williams are this week's targets when they tackle the ups and downs of Wimbledon's tennis tournament. Meanwhile, a political revolution is taking place as Maggie Antiochette and the Ginger Pimpingle battle it out (r)

- 11.30 Tour of Duty: True Grit. Drama with American conscripts fighting in the Vietnam War. The soldiers are exhausted after the Tet Offensive, but refuse to give up

- 12.30 Film: Flight (1971). Overdone and unpleasant thriller about a young baby-sitter (Susan George) who spends a terrible night at a country house being harassed by a psychotic from a mental hospital. With Honor Blackman, George Cole and Dennis Waterman. Directed by Peter Collinson. Followed by news headlines

- 2.15 Picnic Beyond the Grave (1973). Starring Peter Cushing, Diana Dors and David Warner. Neil multi-story horror about visitors to a small antique shop who meet with various terrible fates. Directed by Kevin Connor

- 4.15 The Hit Men and Her. Music and fun with Pete Waterman and Michelle Strachan

- 5.15 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00



Scenes watching: Nickolas Grace (10.30pm)

- Martin Duffy, himself normally in a wheelchair, gives disabled children the chance to compete in a wide range of sports, from hovercraft races to canoeing, which even the able-bodied would find challenging. Today's programme comes from Bending Lodge residential sports centre in Cumbria, which specialises in courses for people with disabilities. (Teletext)

- 7.00 The World This Week with the latest news on the crisis in the Gulf, and a report on the conflict between the militant and liberal wings of the Mohawk Indian tribe

- 8.00 Secrets of the Deep: The Seas Must Know. The final programme in the award-winning wildlife documentary series reveals the growing catalogue of man-made disasters that are polluting our oceans and threatening the existence of the marine species (r).

- 9.00 Thirtysomething. More spectacular navel-gazing in the superior soap about Americans approaching the age of 40. Last in the series. (Teletext)

- 10.00 Cycling: Kellogg's Tour of Britain. The fifth stage of the tour is a 115-mile stretch from Bridlington to Newcastle taking in the Yorkshire moors. Phil Liggett and Chris Mann report.

- 10.30 Film on Four International: Lorca, Death of a Poet (1987). A small neat figure with a round expressive face, the British actor Nickolas Grace plays Federico Garcia Lorca in a film made for Spanish television by the veteran cinema director, J. A. Bardem. As with many TV movies, this one has its moments of slackness; as if finding difficulty filling the generous screen time. There was much to be said for the old

- Hollywood discipline of cutting the episode and getting on with it. Apart from Grace's performance, which blends effectiveness with some of the otherwise Spanish cast, this strength of the film is its attempt to make the viewer aware of politics and the consequences of the policies of the government.

- 12.45am Verdict. Tonight's jury must decide whether adultery is a firm basis for a good marriage. The recipe for disaster in the case of Julia and Giles, a couple who always seem to be in a relationship does not include sex. Moderator: J. B. Gardiner

- 2.00 The Harp in the South. Mini-series adapted from Ruth Park's novel about an Irish-Australian family struggling to make ends meet in the aftermath of the second world war (r). Ends at 2.55

- 2.55am Weather

- 7.10 In the Psychiatrist's Chair. © There's a lot to learn about Anthony Zerbe's "consultations" that we find in the best psychological thrillers. They are cut-and-dried mouse games played for real, and the torn Tom (Dr. Clark) always enjoys the game. Tonight, there's another shock. Peter Hall can make it a hard-won victory. Sir Peter, confessedly a man in the grip of theatrical obsession, also owns up to constantly domineering what is *de rigeur* for the sake of his profession — a succession of masks. Clara does not much rip them off as *cross-hall* to remove them herself. For the listener, this is pleasurable torture (r).

- 7.45 Sunday Night Theatre: The Petition by Brian Clark, was written for and dedicated to Dame Peggy Ashcroft who now performs the role for the first time. With John Mills, All breakfast in their Belgrave apartment General Sir Edward sees 50 years of married life in the light when Lady Elizabeth reveals her true hatred of the horrors of war (r).

- 9.00 Music in Mind. Brian Kay plays a wide selection of melodies in honour of the Queen Mother's birthday. © Ten Ten led by Fr Oliver McTernan (s) 9.50 Weather

- 10.00 News: Talking Politics (new series). Talking Politics, to some political experts, about the qualities needed to get on in politics (t) (3)

- 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent: Reflections of life and politics abroad

- 12.00 Money Box: UBM Unichem: your money box — managing personal and family finance

- 12.25pm Hotel (new series): Ian Wallace, Maureen Lipman and John Wells tell some amazing stories — two are true but one is fabricated by John Brooks-Taylor (s) 12.25 Weather

- 1.10 The Radio Generation (new series). A group of young people, mostly first-timers, discuss the 1987 election and share their opinions on issues in today's world with Simon Bates (r)

- 1.20 News: Celebration of the Queen Mother's 80th Birthday (s) 1.30 The Gardening Quiz (new series) hosted by Stellar Bunting. © Test your knowledge of plants and flowers about managing personal and family finance

- 1.45 Record Release: Bach (No 21, Harvey (s) No 1 (r))

- 2.00 Jazz Record Requests with Debbie Cox

- 2.45 Interactions on Record: Roger Nichols on Debussy's Images

- 3.45 Schumann Songs: Margaret Field, soprano, Paul Hamburger, piano

- 3.50 Saturday Kitchen: Sophie Mirren and Meni Namara, piano, play Fanfare in F minor

- 4.15 Giles Swayne and Jonathan Harvey (s) 4.30 L'Amour (s) 4.45 Arthurs' Quartet (s) 4.55 Swanee (s) 4.56 The Ensemble (s) 4.57 The Chorus (s) 4.58 The Chorus (s) 4.59 The Chorus (s) 4.60 The Chorus (s) 4.61 The Chorus (s) 4.62 The Chorus (s) 4.63 The Chorus (s) 4.64 The Chorus (s) 4.65 The Chorus (s) 4.66 The Chorus (s) 4.67 The Chorus (s) 4.68 The Chorus (s) 4.69 The Chorus (s) 4.70 The Chorus (s) 4.71 The Chorus (s) 4.72 The Chorus (s) 4.73 The Chorus (s) 4.74 The Chorus (s) 4.75 The Chorus (s) 4.76 The Chorus (s) 4.77 The Chorus (s) 4.78 The Chorus (s) 4.79 The Chorus (s) 4.80 The Chorus (s) 4.81 The Chorus (s) 4.82 The Chorus (s) 4.83 The Chorus (s) 4.84 The Chorus (s) 4.85 The Chorus (s) 4.86 The Chorus (s) 4.87 The Chorus (s) 4.88 The Chorus (s) 4.89 The Chorus (s) 4.90 The Chorus (s) 4.91 The Chorus (s) 4.92 The Chorus (s) 4.93 The Chorus (s) 4.94 The Chorus (s) 4.95 The Chorus (s) 4.96 The Chorus (s) 4.97 The Chorus (s) 4.98 The Chorus (s) 4.99 The Chorus (s) 4.100 The Chorus (s) 4.101 The Chorus (s) 4.102 The Chorus (s) 4.103 The Chorus (s) 4.104 The Chorus (s) 4.105 The Chorus (s) 4.106 The Chorus (s) 4.107 The Chorus (s) 4.108 The Chorus (s) 4.109 The Chorus (s) 4.110 The Chorus (s) 4.111 The Chorus (s) 4.112 The Chorus (s) 4.113 The Chorus (s) 4.114 The Chorus (s) 4.115 The Chorus (s) 4.116 The Chorus (s) 4.117 The Chorus (s) 4.118 The Chorus (s) 4.119 The Chorus (s) 4.120 The Chorus (s) 4.121 The Chorus (s) 4.122 The Chorus (s) 4.123 The Chorus (s) 4.124 The Chorus (s) 4.125 The Chorus (s) 4.126 The Chorus (s) 4

SUMMARY



Four for the finale

BRITAIN's hopes of success in the individual showjumping at the World Equestrian Games in Stockholm rest with the Whitaker brothers, Michael Whitaker (above) is fifth and John sixth after the first two phases. Only the top four after today's jumping will qualify for the finale tomorrow, when the riders will compete on each other's horses. George Bowman, of Britain, is fifth after the first day of the carriage-driving championship. Page 27

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Double bowl

AMERICAN football in Britain has its double-header of the year this weekend. Today, at Crystal Palace, Manchester Spartans' claim to be the best in Britain is tested by Northants Storm in the Coca-Cola Bowl. Tomorrow, at Wembley, Los Angeles Raiders and New Orleans Saints contest American Bowl '90; their No 1 quarterbacks have been left at home because of pay disputes but there is still almost as much magic. Page 26

GOLF

Douglas leads WITH a second round of 71, Katrina Douglas (above), of Bristol, holds a one-stroke lead over Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, going into the third round today of the Weetabix British women's Open golf championship at Woburn. Page 24

CYCLING

Close finish

MICHEL Denies, of Belgium, and Robert Millar, of Scotland, are neck and neck at the head of the Kellogg's Tour of Britain cycle race, with two stages remaining, from Bridlington to Newcastle today and from York to the finish in Manchester tomorrow. Page 25

CRICKET

Spinning in

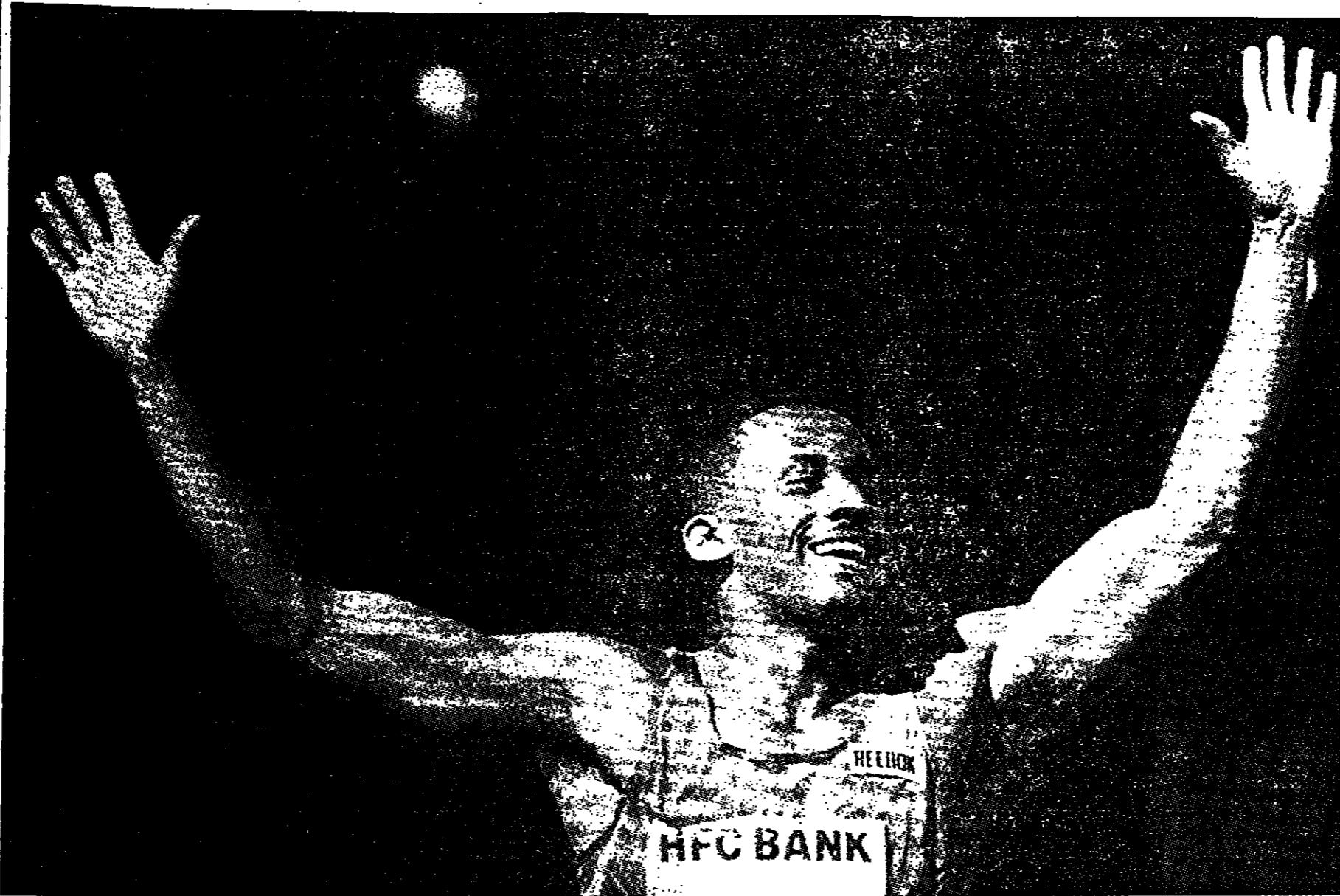
EVEN though they beat India by 247 runs in the record-breaking first Test, England may be tempted to make a change in their team for the second match of the series, at Old Trafford, starting next Thursday. The selectors' have been considering Philip Tufnell (above) and Keith Medlycott as an extra spin ingredient. Page 25

RACING

Carson ban

WILLIE Carson had an eventful afternoon at Goodwood yesterday. He received a four-day ban for careless riding after Jimmy Barnes had been disqualified from first place in the opening Molecomb Stakes. Then he had a double on Kawnban and Alnasab, both owned by Hamdan Al-Maktoum. Pages 28-29

Adam determined not to be left in starting block



Claiming attention: sprinter Adam seeking to ensure his place in the European team in the AAA championships and selection trials today

By DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

MARCUS Adam, the Commonwealth 200-metres champion today hopes to avoid the fate which befell Linford Christie a year ago. On the second day of the Panasonic AAA and WAAA championships at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, he attempts to avoid becoming a victim of British sprinting's strength in depth.

It was in these championships last summer that Christie finished third in the 200 metres and failed to gain selection for England at that distance in the Commonwealth Games. The first two - Adam and Ade Mafe, as it turned out - were assured of selection and John Regis, the European indoor champion and European Cup winner that year, was the selectors' choice for the discretionary third place.

So Christie, having won the 100 metres in Auckland, was forced into an observer's role when Adam, Regis and Mafe, in that order, swept up the medals. Adam, at 21, looked a brilliant prospect that day, his 20.10sec, only 0.01sec outside Christie's British record, benefiting from only marginally illegal wind assistance. On his return, Adam became the first Briton for two years to defeat Christie indoors, in the match between Britain and East Germany.

Even more impressive, it seems now, Adam subsequently defeated Michael Johnson in the match against the United States and East Germany.

"I have not been going well at all this season," Adam admitted. Sixth in the Edinburgh grand prix,

Germany. Johnson has become one of the world's foremost athletes this summer, his 19.85sec in the Edinburgh grand prix meeting last month, giving those at altitude in Seestreric next Wednesday every reason to expect a world record from the American.

Meanwhile, Adam, who has yet to make his mark this summer, now regrets his winter conquests over Christie and Johnson. "It was a mistake. I tried to push myself too hard and my body broke down," he said yesterday as he prepared for last night's 100 metres.

Hip and back trouble means that he comes to Birmingham with barely a month's full training behind him and performances in the British grand prix meetings which hardly do him justice.

While he was hoping to book his ticket for the European championships, which begin in Split on August 27, in the shorter sprint, it is the longer one that offers him a realistic chance of challenging for gold.

The AAA and WAAA championships are the British trials for Split and the change in selection policy to guarantee places to winners only, leaving two to the discretion of the selectors, may work to his advantage. Provided he can show today that his 200 metres running is on an upward curve, he should be picked, no matter what Regis, Mafe and Christie do.

"I have not been going well at all this season," Adam admitted. Sixth in the Edinburgh grand prix,

TODAY'S FINALS

12.30: Women's 5,000 metres walk; men's hammer; men's pole vault. 1.0: Men's 100 metres walk. 2.0: Men's high jump; men's triple jump. 2.50: Women's 100 metres; men's 400 metres. 3.30: Women's 800 metres steeplechase. 3.55: Men's 400 metres hurdles. 4.0: Men's long jump; women's javelin; women's shot. 4.05: Women's 200 metres. 4.25: Men's 200 metres. 4.45: Women's 400 metres hurdles. 4.55: Men's 200 metres. 5.0: Women's 800 metres. 5.12: Men's 800 metres. 5.20: Men's 1500 metres.

in 20.91sec, and third in the grand prix at Crystal Palace in 20.70sec, lead weight to that statement. "I should have taken three weeks off after the Commonwealth Games instead of going on to Melbourne, running there, and then coming back for the indoor season."

He admits to the inexperience of youth: "I had never been injured before and I have learned my lesson. In future I will plan my season better. I have not raced any 300s or 400s, so my speed endurance is not good. I am okay to 150 metres, but then I start fading. If I can get through this weekend, there should be time for me to get it right by Split."

Phil Brown, the hero of many great British 4 x 400m relay triumphs, continued his education in the one-lap hurdles, qualifying for the final as runner-up in his heat in a modest 51.34sec.

But, with only the winner of each event being guaranteed selection for the European team, the

Birchfield man, who only started to concentrate on tackling the barriers earlier this season, looked to have little chance of being the chosen one.

The best bet for a British victory in the absence of Krisz Akabusi looks like the evergreen Max Robertson, who set out on his quest for a fifth AAA title with a comprehensive 51.11sec win in his heat.

The hot weather might have suited the sprinters, but with temperatures soaring into the nineties, there were no heroics from the Britons aiming to follow for today's 3,000 metres steeplechase final.

The conditions, though, clearly suited a Kenyan visitor, the little-known Philip Barkuto, who carved out a solo win in 8min 27.08sec in the first heat - nearly 20 seconds clear of the field.

• A knee injury has forced Sally Gunnell, the Commonwealth hurdles champion, to pull out of the championships. The 24-year-old Essex runner strained a muscle just above her right knee when warming up for the 400m heats last night.

"It is not too serious, but I just thought I had better pull out as a precaution," she said. Instead, she will sharpen up her speedwork on the flat, ruling out the possibility of a showdown today with Linda Keough, the Commonwealth silver medal winner, who was the fastest qualifier in 53.20sec.

her left arm in four places, but she returned last week and naturally had a winner in her first race, her 1,900th career win. It was the day after her 27th birthday. "I'm so happy," she said. "It's not so much a sense of relief as much as - wow! I can still do it!"

• The Lord's-engendered row between Bishen Bedi and Sunil Gavaskar has added little but an Indian gloss on the main business. However, it has worried David Frith, the editor of *Wisden Cricket Monthly*. He has been

counting on both men to play on the same side for his *Media XI* against Tim Hudson's side on the rest day of the Manchester Test next Sunday.

Sporting prints

This column recently solicited information about renaissance sportspeople: specifically, athletes of serious standard who are or were also painters and sculptors of serious standard. I hear of Ken Taylor, the Yorkshire and England cricketer, also a Huddersfield Town footballer. He studied at Slade and became a professional cartoonist. Ron Davies, footballer for Southampton, Portsmouth and Wales, was, I gather, an accomplished cartoonist".

Bobby Kellard, of many football clubs, was a watercolourist.

Adam Robson, capped 20 times for Scotland at rugby in the Fifties, has exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy. Philip Backer,

13 years a National Hunt jockey, is a sculptor, and made the

bronze of Red Rum at Aintree. But the cream of the collection, at least in artistic terms, is Maurice Vlaminck, 1876-1958, member of Les Fauves, the group which included Matisse and Derain. I learn that Vlaminck was a weightlifter and a professional racing cyclist. He wrote and played the violin as well. There's a real sporting polymath for you. Thanks to John A Eteson, Martin Woolley, John Milne and Frank Humphries for the info.

No room at the top

I am staggered to hear that 41 people stood on the top of Everest in the course of the spring climbing season this year. Of these, 20 were members of the Peace Expedition, a joint effort between China, the Soviet Union and the United States. One of these was the first Soviet woman to do so. The season also produced the first Belgian ascent (how do Belgians learn about mountains?) and the first Swedish ascent. The mountain also gave its traditional grudging welcome to Peter Hillary, son of Sir Edmund. It is the first time a father and son have both climbed the big hill. However, even this was overshadowed by Sherpa Ang Rig, who had, before spring, climbed the mountain five times. He was in jail for allegedly killing a Tibetan, was bailed out by Spanish climbers, and went straight out and climbed the mountain for the sixth time. That is another record, and one that will take a good deal of beating.

Wembley to host Hungary

By LOUISE TAYLOR

GRAHAM Taylor will begin his international managerial career with home advantage after the Football Association announced yesterday that England's match with Hungary on Wednesday September 12 had been switched from Budapest to Wembley.

With the Nept stadium in Hungary being unavailable, the FA was concerned that a ground offering laxer security could be less of a deterrent to hooliganism among England followers. As Manchester United are due to visit Pecs Munkas of Hungary in the first round of the European Cup Winners' Cup three weeks later, any violence could have curtailed England's return to domestic European competition before it had begun.

Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, said: "In view of the delicate situation over security, we feel it would be safer not to go to one of these alternative stadia. We have reached a perfectly amicable agreement with the Hungarians and we will go there when we play them next." That is expected to be late in 1991 or early 1992.

Lawrie McMenemy, Taylor's assistant, and Les Walker, the FA security officer, who travelled to Budapest to look at alternative stadia, negotiated a transfer to Wembley. An under-21 fixture between the two countries will take place at Southampton on Tuesday September 11.

Taylor said yesterday: "We have worked so hard to get back into Europe, and it is so important for our clubs that we do not want to jeopardise things. The Hungarians are happy because we were always going to play home and away anyway."

"I think it is also important that the FA is not seen to be at odds with the League. We are all football people, working towards the same aims. We put Wembley on stand-by for this eventuality."

Resilient Hall takes title in show of nerve

CAROLINE Hall, aged 16, from Filton, Bristol, won the English girls' championship at Bolton Old Links and decided that she would not be going to college but would concentrate on golf instead.

But Hall, the second youngest winner of the title, had a tremendous battle before she beat Joanne Hockley, of Felixstow Ferry, at the 20th. She lost the first three holes and was four down after six as Hockley produced a series of birdies.

Hall showed great determination as she fought back but was still two down with two to play. She won both as Hockley wilted under pressure and, after the 19th was halved with birdies, Hall got home when her opponent drove into rough and failed to find the green with her second. It took Hall 10 hours a week in which the Bristol girl justified her plus two handicap.

RESULTS: Final C Hall (Filton) bt J Hockley (Felixstow Ferry), 20th. The other attraction, of course, will be the earliest look at Taylor's first England selection, and Wembley should have a good attendance.

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 Black Horse Life

TU 04/08

Tour match peters out in a disappointing draw after Surrey set testing target

Indians decline to take bait

By IVO TENNANT

THE OVAL (final day of three): Surrey drew with the Indians

LEFT to score 351 in a minimum of 65 overs, the Indians soon reasoned that too much was being asked of them. In that they were without their captain, Azharuddin, and Kapil Dev, to name but two match-winners, they were probably right. Yet this did not excuse their timidity, nor prevent sporadic bursts of slow hand-clapping well before the end.

They began competently enough. Raman and Mongia put on 94 in 23 overs, summarily dealing with Gray. Once the partnership was broken, it was a different matter. In choosing not to send in Vengsarkar, the Indians made their intentions quite evident.

Surrey had continued their second innings until lunch. Clinton hit 74, although Stewart, to the second ball of the day, Ward, through turning a flighted leg break into a yorker, and Lynch, aiming to square cut, all floundered in the pursuit of quick runs. It was Greig, striking the spinners in his clean, upright fashion, who played the one exhilarating innings of the day. There were five sixes, in his unbeaten 76, struck with abandon in an arc between mid-wicket and long-off from 65 balls.

He asked the Indians to score at nearly six an over and, for so long as Gray was on, they did exactly that. His first six overs went for 36. If Raman is not a regular member of the Indians' Test side on account of a weakness in playing the away swinger, which means he is in celebrated company, there is no doubt in his ability to drive on the up and to square cut.

From one Feitham over he took two classy fours, each time flourishing his bat as if berating those of the opinion that for all his ruses, he will not be in contention for a Test place next week. He made 58 before pushing tentatively at Kendrick's left-arm spin and being caught at silly point. The pitch remained, however, essentially one which promoted stroke play.

Perhaps Manjrekar and More were aware of this when



In full flow: Greig, the Surrey captain, looks to pull in typically aggressive fashion during his unbeaten innings 76 at the Oval yesterday

they left the field at a great lick at the end, as if to preempt further slow handclapping from the members. The Indians were 184 runs adrift of their target.

SURRY: First Innings 354 for 7 (S Clinton 77, A Stewart 82, S Ward 61, J Lynch 58, D May 41, M Ward 2, D Stewart 3, M A Lynch 3, Mankad 2); Second Innings 150-2 (G Greig not out, S Mongia 50, N Morello 4, P Stewart 3, K T Madecott 2, S Morello 1, Extras 6) (8 wickets) 256. **FAIR OF WICKETS:** 1-94, 2-111. **BOWLING:** Shams 3-0-7, Watson 4-4, 142; S Morello 2-10, Ward 15-0, Shams 2-7, 3-80-2, Morello 15-0, 7-74, Kumble 2-10-5, Raju 10-32-4.

INDIA: First Innings 289 for 9 (S Ranjan 127, B Vengsarkar 50); Second Innings 150-2 (G Srinivasan 58, N Morello 4, P Stewart 3, K T Madecott 2, S Morello 1, Extras 6) (8 wickets) 256. **FAIR OF WICKETS:** 1-94, 2-111. **BOWLING:** Shams 3-0-7, Watson 4-4, 142; S Morello 2-10, Ward 15-0, Shams 2-7, 3-80-2, Morello 15-0, 7-74, Kumble 2-10-5, Raju 10-32-4.

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 288 for 9 (S Clinton 97, A Stewart 82, S Ward 61, J Lynch 58, D May 41, M Ward 2, D Stewart 3, M A Lynch 3, Mankad 2); Second Innings 150-2 (G Greig not out, S Mongia 50, N Morello 4, P Stewart 3, K T Madecott 2, S Morello 1, Extras 6) (8 wickets) 256. **FAIR OF WICKETS:** 1-94, 2-111. **BOWLING:** Gray 8-0-17, Feitham 4-0-10, Madecott 2-7-55-0; Kendrick 2-6-5, 6-2. **Umpires:** A G T Whitehead and P B Wright

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

VICTORY at Lord's, achieved by bowling out India twice while losing only eight wickets in the match themselves, may be all the justification England's selectors feel they need to retain the same balance, and the same players, when the Cornhill series resumes at Old Trafford next Thursday.

Whether or not this is the right thing to do is another matter.

Tampering with a winning combination will not come easily either to Graham Gooch or Micky Stewart but the fact remains that the team they selected at Lord's does not give them their best chance of beating India again and is uninformative on some

important issues for the winter business in Australia, for which the selectors are sifting through replies to their 43 availability cards.

If they persist with the selection of only four bowlers, England will rightly point out that they were sufficient for the job at Lord's. What this overlooks, however, is that there was no need for a sixth specialist bowler. John Morris had time to make four not out in the first innings and did not bat in the second. Jack Russell, whose Test average is 33, did not get in at all.

It will require either a rogue pitch or an epidemic of suicidal strokes for England's batting to be seriously embarrassed by this modest Indian attack and if they are looking to win another game, rather than simply guard against

losing, a fifth bowler simply must make sense.

If this is agreed, Gooch's instincts will almost certainly tend towards another seam bowler, presumably the much-tried DeFreitas but, on the prevailing dry pitches and against adventurous right-handed stroke makers, it would be far more useful to include a left-arm spinner, turning the ball away from the bat.

Assuming the selectors follow the thinking thus far, their debate is then likely to concern Keith Medcalf and Philip Tufnell, both chirpy young Londoners still essentially at the spin bowler's learning stage but either one of them capable of influencing a match, as their volume of first-class wickets this season

(106 between them already) would indicate.

Morris, demonstrably, has done nothing to merit being abruptly ejected and should remain in the party, his credentials for Australia having already been diligently presented. But the only way he could play, with a fifth bowler included, is at the expense of either Smith or Lamb if the selection should feel that these two are certainties to tour and Morris has a bit to prove. Test appearances these days being worth rather more than a cap, sweater and pocket money, however, neither man is likely to volunteer for a rest.

Possible England 12: G Gooch, M Atherton, D Gower, A Lamb, R Smith, J Morris, R Russell, C Lewis, P Tufnell, E Hemmings, A Fraser, D Malcolm.

Melted tar was a hazard whenever the course transferred to minor roads and riders were seen to be choosing carefully the "line" they took. Heading requests made the previous day officials thoughtfully arranged to have hoses directed at riders along the way to help keep down their body temperatures in the faltering conditions.

Dave Mann, who started the season without a sponsor but increased backing in time to take part, increased his lead in the TV Times sprint competition, winning the first at 15 miles to the delight of the crowd at Doncaster. He shot to the front of the race in Gainsborough to underline his dominance.

Almost immediately another attack started which carried clear two Danes, Soren Lilholt and Jesper Skibby, friends off the bike but race rivals riding for different sponsors.

The pair

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American football game that asks for neither quarter nor quarterback

Raiders plan Art exhibition

By ROBERT KIRLEY

THE Los Angeles Raiders and the New Orleans Saints will contest the American Bowl '90, the fifth annual National Football League exhibition, at Wembley tomorrow, but neither club will have its ace quarterback.

This is not a cause for consternation. Who starts at quarterback does not make a great deal of difference in the American Bowl. The four previous games have featured most of the leading passers: McMahon, Everett, Elway, Marino, Montana, Cunningham and Kosar.

They were cheered heartily, only to be substituted quickly, usually in the second quarter. Never mind — the game is competitive and the atmosphere is thoroughly big time. Why get your key player banged up in the first pre-season game, anyway?

Steve Beuerlein, of Los Angeles, and Bobby Hebert, of New Orleans, did not make the trip to London because they are unhappy with their pay. Jay Schroeder will start for the Raiders and John Fourcade will lead the Saints. Both are good. Schroeder, formerly with the Washington Redskins, shared the job with Beuerlein last season and Fourcade started three games. Neither club advanced to the play-offs.

"I have the ability to lead this ball club," Fourcade said before practice at Crystal Palace this week. "We're here to play our hardest."

Art Shell, the LA coach, earned Hall of Fame recognition as a player for the Raiders. "This is a great opportunity for us and we must take advantage of it," he said. "The distractions could be a negative thing. It's my job to make it a positive thing."

Marcus Allen, the Los Angeles running back, believes the Raiders will resurrect their glory days. They won the Super Bowl in 1977, 1981 and 1984.

"Having Art for the whole season will make a big difference," Allen said. Shell took over in mid-season last year. "I played with him in his last season. He knows the game and he's a great motivator."

Bob Golic, a 12-year veteran nose tackle with the Raiders, said: "The competition is what it's all about. Each play you know whether



Living on borrowed time: Golic, nine years beyond his expected span with the Raiders, practising in Hyde Park

No rest for European victors

By RICHARD WETHERELL

MANCHESTER Spartans hope to complete a momentous double when they play Northants Storm in the Coca-Cola Bowl at Crystal Palace today. Their main worry could be fatigue after their victorious trip to the Euro Bowl tournament. Their opponents will have benefited from two weeks' rest since their semi-final victory against Birmingham Bulls.

Spartans are the dominant side in British as well as European football. They were unbeaten during the regular season, the only blot on their record book being the forfeit to Glasgow Lions of their final game.

Despite the off-the-field troubles resulting from this last year's champions have marched

through the play-offs. They overcame Leeds Cougars 45-36 and Glasgow Lions 33-29. Spartans will rely on their quarterback, Chotes, and Bailey, the running back, for their offense, while Wooster and Bosomworth should ensure a tight defense.

They will be busy against a Storm offense heavily based on the running game.

Scoring 90 points in their two play-off games, Storm continued the form that made them the league's top scorers. Towards the end of the season the defense tightened up, but they conceded 30 points against Leicester Panthers and 41 to Birmingham Bulls.

Details were also announced of "operation discovery". This is an effort to sign world-class athletes who have not played American football before. They will be affiliated to the league and coached for the necessary skills.

you won, lost or tied. You get to get up and have a chance to do better. Most players last about three years, so I'm living on borrowed time."

The multi-purpose running back, Dalton Hilliard, of the Saints, said: "I'm looking forward to the season. We have to establish consistency. Last year we didn't win games so we should have in the fourth quarter."

Playing in the same division as the San Francisco 49ers, who have won the two most recent Super Bowls, and the Los Angeles Rams will not make things easier for the guys from the Big Easy.

AMERICAN BOWL RESULTS: 1986: Chicago Bears 17, Dallas Cowboys 6; 1987: LA Rams 28, Denver Broncos 27; 1988: Miami Dolphins 27, San Francisco 49ers 21; 1989: Philadelphia Eagles 17, Cardinals and Browns 13.

SPORTS POLITICS

Ramsamy begins S Africa study

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Sam Ramsamy, the anti-apartheid campaigner, arrived in South Africa yesterday for talks with local organisations on the country's possible return to Olympic competition after an absence of three decades.

Ramsamy, the chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, said on his arrival from London that the aim of his 10-day visit was to monitor the degree of progress towards non-racial sport.

"I have been commissioned by various African sport bodies to meet with South African national controlling bodies of sport and listen to their views on South Africa's sport and its future development," he said.

"The end of apartheid is the key to everything. Apartheid must go... that is the view of the whole world." Ramsamy, a key figure in keeping South Africa out of world sport as a protest against the segregation of races said.

Ramsamy, who has lived in exile since leaving South Africa 18 years ago, said he would discuss the possibility of forming non-racial governing bodies for individual Olympic sports and for sport in general.

Most South African sports are run by rival bodies, with a segregationist white federation seeking to end the sports boycott and an anti-apartheid organisation in favour of keeping the

ban until apartheid is dismantled.

Ramsamy will report to the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), which asked him to hold talks with all controlling bodies of sport in South Africa. His report will be a decisive factor in the return of South Africa to international sport.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) believes the South African problem must be solved by Africans and Ramsamy's visit arises from requests by South African sports officials to the IOC to review the situation.

Commenting on speculation that South Africa could soon be readmitted to the Olympic fold and the Durban bid for host Games in 2000, Ramsamy said: "I hope they are right, but all the pillars of apartheid will have to go first and I hope that will be in the next couple of months. I cannot talk of any city hosting the Olympics because South Africa is not part of the Olympic movement yet."

He said he and ANOCA believed the sports boycott had been successful in isolating South Africa, but felt they had yet to achieve their main objective, to force integration of the country's sporting bodies.

Asked when the boycott was likely finally to be lifted, Ramsamy said: "It's up to South Africans themselves."

Government says few pupils will drop PE

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE Government has claimed that "very small numbers" of pupils aged 14 to 16 will be able to drop physical education on the new national curriculum.

The announcement on Tuesday by John MacGregor, the education secretary, has worried leading figures in physical education, teaching and sport that the curriculum would be unbalanced.

Instead, MacGregor said on television that many youngsters would be doing more physical education in schools than they have up to now under the national curriculum.

He said on TV, "I am confident that if the government goes ahead with the proposals, 'very small numbers' of pupils will actually be able to drop PE. The vast majority will have to do it."

Those individuals that may be able to stop physical education will be taking up options like a second modern language, Latin, Greek or economics.

MacGregor was debating the issue with Len Almond, the director of physical education at Loughborough University, who told *The Times* yesterday: "The government does have an interest in sport and exercise but there has been a genuine concern that there was too much on the programme."

The government clarified the situation and has acknowledged the problem teachers are facing."

Almond, who is also the director of the health and physical education project at Loughborough, said that MacGregor's statement was very positive for the national working group on PE in schools, which was announced last month, and guidelines will be set for the health of the nation and good news for sport."

However, thousands of physical education teachers, parents and sports administrators still be concerned that under the pressure of other subjects, it will play a less prominent role in many state schools than it did previously.

Many leading figures point out that the subject helps to make children well-rounded individuals and also widens the options of school leavers.

Professor Margaret Talbot, the Carnegie Professor at Leeds Polytechnic and a member of the government's working group, has pointed out that by eliminating the one subject that is not primarily intellectual, the curriculum would not be well balanced.

GOODWILL GAMES

Two golds for Gao at diving

By JANE WYATT

SEATTLE (Reuters) — Gao Min, of China, showed off her supremacy on the springboard at the Goodwill Games on Thursday with her second diving gold medal, despite recent injury and her country's scant record for the one-metre event.

"I paid very little attention to the one-metre springboard because it is not very popular in China," the Olympic champion said. "What I did today I am very satisfied with."

Gao, who launched the competition with a gold medal in the three-metre springboard on Tuesday, made it three diving golds in a row for China. Tan Liangde overcame influenza to win the men's three-metre event on Wednesday.

In the boxing ring, the Soviet Union and the United States ended the day with four wins apiece from their eight semi-final showdowns. Andrei Kurniyev, the Soviet world middleweight champion, dealt the most spectacular blow, sending Jeremy Williams, aged 17, to the canvas with a crushing right in their light-heavyweight bout.

The American spent a minute on the floor before being helped to his corner.

More US-Soviet contests are in the offing as nine from the Soviet Union and eight from the United States advance to the 24 finals. The Cubans, including two world champions, are also seeking gold.

The figure skating field included entries from the US's top 11 men, some presenting their new programmes, others sticking to last season's numbers for reasons of secrecy. There was much slipping and sliding, Viktor Petrenko of the Soviet Union, who won the silver medal at the Halifax worlds last March, was one who played safe in the short. He finished above Kurt Browning, the reigning champion, and Chris Bowman, of the United States.

Browning, from Canada, received hand support after a triple axel while Bowman was still recovering from a knee injury. The American spent a minute on the floor before being helped to his corner.

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SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Namibian starters collect medals

By JANE WYATT

NAMIBIA, newly independent, and Yemen, newly united, have made their debuts, with contrasting results, at the world Stoke Mandeville wheelchair games being staged by the British Paraplegics Sports Society at the Ludwig Guttmann sports centre in Aylesbury.

The six-man team from Namibia were able to make a last-minute entry after an injection of funds by their government. The results have been impressive with a gold medal, a silver and three bronzes.

Yemen have not equalled Namibia's performances and are at the bottom of the medal table. The team was helped to the games by the British Foreign Office's help in raising the funds required to buy specialist equipment.

The momentous events in the Middle East have, of course, cast a gloom over the Kuwaiti team. Its members are stunned by the Iraqi invasion of their country, but are to remain in Britain to finish competing in the games.

With one more day left of competition, Australia are heading the medals table followed by the United States, Spain and Britain.

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SHOOTING

Canadians face might of British

By CONRAD VOSS BANK

THE Great Britain rifle team, which opens its Canadian tour in Vancouver this weekend, has two double Queen's Prize winners and two young marksmen who have surprised the Canadians before (our Rifle Shooting Correspondent writes).

Jeremy Langley, aged 22, won the Canadian overall championship two years ago on his first trip with the senior team.

Glyn Barnett, aged 19, who was in the Great Britain cadet team last year, almost did the same thing then, finishing second.

John Bloomfield, who won the Queen's Prize last week for a second time and Andrew Tucker, the other double winner, have won leading Canadian awards several times.

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FISHING

Anglers told to be more gentlemanly

By CONRAD VOSS BANK

THE Salmon and Trout Association (Salta) has updated advice on how anglers should behave which was first given in *The Treaty of Pyssyllye* in 1496 and has been updated many scores of times by angling writers during the last 500 years with little noticeable effect.

The Game Angling Code, a small pamphlet produced by Salta, supported by Lapinsport Whisky, in consultation with 17 sporting organisations, is the latest version of how anglers should behave according to the social mores of the time. In some cases the code is an improvement on the 1496 version, in other cases less so.

For example, the new code merely says that anglers should be discouraged from selling their fish, whereas *The Treaty* comes out more strongly by saying that anglers must not use their sport "for covetousness, merely for the increasing or saving of their money".

The Treaty, in saying that, gets down to the basic problem that was so apparent in the reported "astromomic" killing and sale of salmon by game fishers on the Tay last year. The Salta approach is more general, more tactful, does not mention the word greed, and comes down in essence to the expression of pious hopes that anglers and fishery owners should behave like gentlemen.

The code is exemplary. No one can quarrel with precepts such as "moderation, courtesy and consideration for others are the marks of a sporting angle". Such structured phrases, however, do give the impression, possibly unfairly, that the authors during their deliberations to paraphrase *Diseas*, became infected with their high morality.

The Game Angling Code is available from the Salmon and Trout Association, Fishers Wharf, London NW1 2EL. From the association's stand at today's Game Fair in Margam Park, South Wales.

TWO men delivered a cautionary warning to the British team, the first to win a double gold medal in the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand.

Lion hearts on winning ride to that rainbow

THERE is nothing very special about Richard Lionheart who runs in the Dimplex Tango Handicap Chase at Newton Abbot this afternoon. But Mills and Boon could publish a best-seller about his jockey, Gareth Charles-Jones, and the jockey's wife, Jessica.

Richard Lionheart is a 10-year-old chestnut who knows his way to the winning post in point-to-point races, was successful in a novice chase two or three years ago, and is a "very safe ride" who is gentle enough for his farmer-owner-trainer's daughter to ride around the country lanes of Devon. Over the 2 miles 5 furlongs of the 2.15 today, he has something a little less than a favourite's chance.

So much for the horse: what of the navigator?... Gareth Charles-Jones is 29 years old and slight enough to go unnoticed in any race-day crowd, but with a heart almost too big for his 5ft 5in frame. A man who once fell heavily and nearly died after being kicked by passing horses and who — like a more famous jump jockey, Bob Champion — has fought and beaten cancer. But apart from waging his personal campaign against the disease over these past horrendous 16 months, Charles-Jones has been sharing his life with a wife who for nearly two years has been paralysed. On Thursday *On the Line* (BBC2, 8.25pm) tells the story of Gareth and Jessica, sport's most courageous couple.

Their lives were linked in that time-honoured way — love at first sight — at Cheltenham. That was their first meeting, a hurdle race which Gareth actually won and in which Jessica, then a 19-year-old conditional jockey, daughter of a Tavistock farmer-owner-trainer called George Turner, followed a distance behind.

Within a couple of years, they were married and the only ups and downs of life were on the National Hunt racing tracks. That is, until October almost two years ago, Jessica had a crashing fall at Southwell, was taken to hospital and awoke to learn that she was paralysed.

Almost before they had restructured their lives to cope

THE WEEK IN VIEW

KEN LAWRENCE'S guide to the best in televised sport in the week ahead

with this tragedy, Gareth was taken ill. Seven months after Jessica's fall, he organised a holiday in Ibiza, did not really feel like going, but "didn't wish to spoil the holiday". So he arranged to see the doctor on their return. The diagnosis was as he feared, cancer.

It would have been enough to destroy some marriages; yet somehow these two nursed each other, propping each other up emotionally and physically. "It was a pretty terrible time," Jessica recalls.

They had to move home from near Lambourne to Letcombe Regis in Oxfordshire to find a house which could accommodate Jessica's wheelchair, and "Gareth's treatment was not very nice," she adds.

"We cried as little as possible. It was so bad at times. You had to be hard to get through it. But we tried to smile and be cheerful. If we weren't, people would not have come to see us. Now, fingers crossed, everything is OK with Gareth. He has to be checked on for another five years or so but we think he is over it. As for me, I think there may have been a fractional improvement. I am having acupuncture now and I am still hoping..."

Hope for Jessica means simply being able to sit on a horse once more in her life. For Gareth it means being able to emulate Bob Champion and also ride in the Grand National: that is the next ambition. However, emotional and physical, the name of today's mount, Richard Lionheart, nothing can be read into it: "It just happens to be owned and trained by Jessica's father, George, down in Tavistock," he laughs. "I won't mind if I finish last."

"Getting aboard will be fantastic — a bit like finding the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow." But, even as Gareth says it, you know that in reality it is just the first step towards the foot of that rainbow.

Laffy provided another

By GRAHAM ROCK

NATIONAL Hunt racing is not an activity for the faint-hearted; it offers a unique blend of hope and heartbreak which delivers agony and ecstasy in proportions which soon drive out all but the faithful.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, has described ownership as 80 per cent disappointment. Fortunately for us the 20 per cent elation has ensured that she has remained the sport's most famous and most popular supporter for more than 40 years.

Stories of her betting are an apocryphal tabloid dream, although her welcome first task of the day is to read through *The Sporting Life* and she sees her horses run whenever official duties permit. It is a relaxation she treasures. The early triumphs are part of racing legend: Monaveen, her first horse, was owned in partnership with the then Princess Elizabeth and won the inaugural running of the Queen Elizabeth Cup at Hurst Park on New Year's Eve in 1949.

Monaveen was bought from the ex-ox of the late Lord Midday of Flete, the champion amateur rider who had been Queen Elizabeth's racing manager; he was drowned swimming off the Devon coast. Known as the last of the Corinthians, and worthy of that accolade, before usage devalued the word to mean any sportsman who consented to play within the rules, he was the inspiration of her patronage.

As a five-year-old, Monaveen put up a remarkable performance to beat the future Gold Cup winners Silver Fame and Knock Hard in the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day, 1950. Thereafter Monaveen's achievements were curtailed by persistent leg injuries, but on that day he gave Queen Elizabeth, and the Kempton Christmas crowd, a scintillating 10 minutes. The celebrations were short-lived, however, as Monaveen broke a leg and had to be put down a few days later.

"Getting aboard will be fantastic — a bit like finding the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow." But, even as Gareth says it, you know that in reality it is just the first step towards the foot of that rainbow.

Laffy provided another

Human preoccupation with the bizarre suggests that Devon Loch is likely to remain Queen Elizabeth's most famous horse. A high-class chaser, he will be remembered for not winning the 1956 Grand National. Clear on the run-in, he collapsed onto his belly less than 50 yards from the winning post when he and Dick Francis had the glittering prize within their grasp.

A generation later it is still impossible to identify the cause of Devon Loch's extraordinary behaviour. Francis has always believed that the roar of the Aintree crowd cheering home a Royal winner was loud enough to terrify his mount. "The calamity which overtook us was sudden, terrible and completely without warning," he wrote later.

Queen Elizabeth received the shock with equanimity and later wrote to her trainer Peter Cazalet: "I am sure that you know how deeply I feel for you. I am beginning to learn more of the immense amount of thought and work that goes into the preparation of a horse for racing and I can understand a little of the anguish you must have felt at such a cruel blow. I send my heartfelt sympathy to you and all in the Fairlawne stable. We will not be done in by this, and will just keep on trying."

Queen Elizabeth has not yet won a Grand National, but in the years after Devon Loch, she and Cazalet enjoyed several seasons of unbroken success. Many days burn bright in the mind but none more than December 9, 1961 when The Rip, Double Star and Laffy completed a Royal treble in just over an hour at Lingfield, and provided a memorable highlight to Queen Elizabeth's annual weekend at Cazalet's country estate.

She was a regular visitor to Fairlawne. Not content with looking at her own horses, she toured round every box, chatted to all the lads, and surprised them with her knowledge of the form.

Laffy provided another

enduring memory when winning the Ulster Harp National at Downpatrick in 1962, despite crossing the line in second place behind the erratic Connakeely, who had missed out a fence.

When the crowd realised that Laffy had won, they surged forward and mobbed the winning owner. Her bodyguard was lost in the melee and while Queen Elizabeth survived intact, the same could not be said of Laffy, who looked distinctly ruffled by the time the crowd had dispersed carrying souvenir hairs from his mane and tail.

The Rip was a particular favourite. Bred by Jack Irwin, who owned the Red Cat Hotel at North Wootton, near Sandringham, this big, slashing chaser often wore blinkers, but none doubted his courage. He won 13 races.

Queen Elizabeth's blue, buff and black colours.

Fulke Walwyn recently retired and the licence has been taken over by his wife, Cath, but the Royal string remains at Saxon House and Queen Elizabeth will start the new jump season with seven horses, including the promising

Argonaut, who won at Sandown this spring was her 38th jumping success, and Queen Elizabeth has also owned two winners on the flat including Bali Ha'i III, a surprise gift from Sir Ernest Davis. In 1959, this tough stayer took the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Queen Elizabeth has always preferred the informality of jump racing. Sandown and Newbury are, perhaps, her

favourite racecourses. She used to travel to Newbury by train, and on more than one occasion the Royal party spent the journey rocking with laughter at the jokes of Captain Charles Moore, manager of the Royal studs.

If The Rip was her favourite horse, Game Spirit came a close second. A bold, free-running steeplechaser, he won 21 of his 47 races but collapsed and died after competing in the Geoffrey Gilbey Chase at Newbury in 1977.

The post mortem revealed not only a haemorrhage of the lungs which had brought about his demise, but clear evidence of internal bleeding during previous races.

Game Spirit; an appropriate name for the horse but the personification of its owner.

In the realm of hope and glory



Team meeting: the Queen Mother talks with jockey Kevin Mooney, trainer Fulke Walwyn and his wife, Cath

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

TODAY: Remember you are watching 2,200 entries with disabilities rather than disabled entries in the 1990 Special Olympic Games in Glasgow (BBC1, 12.30-5.05). **TOMORROW:** Near to cutting for lack of grass, Britain's Second Division is now in sight of its fourth world sidecar championship: the British grand prix at Donington today should provide another valuable test for the title. **Wednesday:** The second Test begins at Old Trafford today. Juggling the buttons between BBC1 and 2 and you can see every ball change on the BBC2 screen. **FRIDAY:** Can Mark Foster win the final major of the year? This is the second day of the US PGA championship at Shesh Creek, Ballybunion, the course on all fours with the 18th hole a 200-yarder and a descent. Gripping stuff. If you are without sky, then take in the hour-long highlights from Sky Sports 2. **Saturday:** The world grand slams (BBC2, 4pm) and the World Cup (BBC2, 4pm) the two vanishing audiences meeting from Brussels at 7.40.

SQUASH RACKETS

England provide all semi-finalists

From COLIN MCQUILLAN in PADERBORN, WEST GERMANY

WHILE England were celebrating a guaranteed winner 48 hours ahead of today's final of the AOK world junior championships, the Kuwaitis and Pakistanis had other things to occupy their thoughts.

There are four teenage Kuwaiti boys conducting themselves with a splendid competitive verve here. The youngest, Ahmed Sultan, aged 12, was player of the day after a courageous battle against the gauntlet Jan Dillner, aged 19, of Germany.

On Thursday, while England's under-19 squad were winning all four semi-final places, Sultan and his colleagues were desperately trying to contact friends and relations back home.

"We must accept their entry and remain flexible as to participation," Karl Heinz Böhner, the championship controller, said.

The International Squash Rackets Federation had yesterday still not officially received the affiliation fees that would allow Pakistan to participate in the team championships which start today.

Pakistan performed poorly in

the individual event. Their two best players, Zubair Jahan and Abdul Rasheed, were among the victims of the English assault, respectively going down in four games to David Campion and Simon Parke.

"It was a great day for England," Jonah Barrington, the team coach, said. "I am not sure that this is not the best day English squash has ever produced. I have been waiting ten years for this breakthrough. These boys were on my earliest junior squads as far back as 1980."

Parkes aged 17, and the top seed, resisted a sparkling early challenge from Rashed to reach the final. Aiden Harrison, an 18-year-old from Worcester, who beat the leading Australian, Nathan Gallagher, Campion, another Yorkshireman, who will be on team finals day, overcame mid-match nerves to beat Jahan and face Mark Allen, aged 18, from Essex.

RESULTS: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: Poets Cove (Eng) b 8 Rishad (Pak), 9-2, 7-5; A. Harrison (Eng) v C. Gallagher (Eng), 9-2, 9-7; N. Campion (Eng) v M. Allen (Eng), 9-2, 9-4, 9-5; D. Parke (Eng) v 2 Jahan (Pak), 9-0, 1-9, 9-4, 5-1.

TENNIS

Bates through as Jacques takes a look

JEREMY Bates, the British No. 1, was watched by Warren Jacques, the Davis Cup team manager, as he moved into the semi-finals of the Northumberland Open in Newcastle yesterday.

Bates, the No. 1 seed, beat Nigel Russell in straight sets and meets Johan Anderson, who had a comfortable victory over Lee Galway, of New Zealand.

Peter Doohan, of Australia, and Slobodan Zivkovic, the Yugoslav Davis Cup player, meet in the other semi-final.

RESULTS: (British unless otherwise stated) Men's singles: 1st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus) b 2 L. Galway (N.Z.), 6-3, 6-4; P. Doohan (Aus) b J. Doohan (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 2nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 3rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 4th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 5th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 6th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 7th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 8th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 9th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 10th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 11th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 12th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 13th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 14th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 15th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 16th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 17th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 18th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 19th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 20th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 21st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 22nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 23rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 24th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 25th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 26th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 27th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 28th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 29th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 30th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 31st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 32nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 33rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 34th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 35th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 36th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 37th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 38th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 39th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 40th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 41st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 42nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 43rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 44th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 45th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 46th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 47th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 48th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 49th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 50th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 51st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 52nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 53rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 54th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 55th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 56th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 57th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 58th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 59th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 60th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 61st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 62nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 63rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 64th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 65th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 66th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 67th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 68th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 69th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 70th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 71st-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 72nd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 73rd-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 74th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J. Anderson (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; 75th-round: J. Bates (Eng) b 2 J

Fine opportunity for Moon Cactus

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

MOON Cactus has an excellent chance of winning the Vodafone Nassau Stakes at Goodwood today now that her talented stable companion Rafa is not running as well, and she is happy to make the most of it.

When they both contested the French Oaks at Chantilly in June, Moon Cactus was beaten 2½ lengths by Rafa, who had earlier won the Princess Elizabeth Stakes at Epsom and the Lingfield Oaks trial.

However, there is a form line involving Game Plan and Knight's Baroness that lends credence to the view that Moon Cactus was not seen at her best in France. Earlier in the season, she had won the Lupe Stakes over today's

course and distance by giving Game Plan 6lb and a comfortable beating.

Game Plan later finished second to Salabis in the Oaks before winning the Pretty Foals Stakes in Ireland. At Epsom, she finished a length in front of the subsequent Irish Oaks winner Knight's Baroness, who had herself run Rafa to a neck in May, albeit when receiving weight.

Yesterday, George Robinson, our Newmarket Correspondent, added his weight to the view that Moon Cactus is better than she appeared in France, by reporting that she has gone consistently better than Rafa in their recent workouts together.

So, Moon Cactus looks poised to pick up the winning thread on a course where she was also successful as a two-

year-old, even though stern opposition can be expected from those talented older fillies Alcando and Starlet.

Alcando had been placed in similar races which were also contested by colts at Sandown and Ayr this season, while Starlet made the useful three-year-old Teatrical Charmer look very ordinary indeed at Kempton last time.

As Starlet has been tested in foal to Sharrood, this could well be her swansong as far as racing is concerned. Judged on the way that she burst clear of her rivals in the straight at Kempton, Steve Cauthen will not be able to afford to give Starlet too much rope.

When Mamaluna won the corresponding race last year, the opposition was not as stiff as it is now. For Kartajana this represents a hard comeback

after an appalling run in the Oaks. Good filly that she looked at Newbury before that, she has still to show that, she is in the same class as Moon Cactus.

On the day that the Queen Mother celebrates her ninetieth birthday, a royal winner would be singularly appropriate. In addition to Starlet, the Queen's colours will also be carried at Goodwood by Unknown Quantity in the Racial Chesterfield Cup.

But as there is nothing between Unknown Quantity and Song of Sixpence on form (Unknown Quantity is now 3lb better off for that 1½-length beating at Ascot last Saturday), I must look elsewhere for the likely winner and to Parador in particular.

He was considered unlucky not to beat the subsequent

Magnet Cup winner Eradicate in the Zealand Gold Cup at Redcar in May.

From Newmarket there is a strong tip that Trident, from Luca Cumani's stable, will be a thorn in everybody's side.

At Newmarket, I like the look of that evergreen jockey Bruce Raymond's chance of landing a treble on Shout For (245), Jolt's Princess (420) and Self Expression (420).

No matter what happens at Goodwood, there should be a royal celebration, not inappropriately at Windsor's evening meeting, where One Upon A Time (720) and Full Orchestra (820) are taken to give the Queen a double.

Blinkered first time

00000000: 31.00 Alcando, THURSDAY 3:55 Express Account, NEWMARKET: 2:45 Beldame, WINDSOR: 6:55 Cartier Lad, Whilton Lad.

3.10 VODAFONE NASSAU STAKES (Group II; fillies: £54,070; 1m 2f) (BBC1)

By Mandarin

2.00 Majlood.
2.30 Parador.
3.10 MOON CACTUS (map).
3.45 Almas.
4.15 Be Fresh.
4.45 Halton Prince.
5.20 Gadabout.

By Michael Seely

2.30 TRUE DIVIDEND (map). 3.10 Moon Cactus.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.10 STARLET.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0422 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,F,G,B) (Mrs D Robinson) B Held 9-10 — B West (9-10)
Recorder number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure sum. P = flat. P = pulled up. R = refused. G = good. D = disabled. H = horse. H = horse. S = steady. L = last. C = course. V = visitor. H = hood. E = Eystead. C = course and distance winner. CD = course and handicapper's rating.

Going good to firm, straight course; firm, round
Draw: 5f-1m, high numbers best

2.0 VODAPAGE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,420; 6f) (6 runners)

BBC1

107 (4) AIR TIME (Quarter Racing) P Mitchell 9-0 — G Carter —
102 (5) BALAAT (Hawarden-Al-Makroum) P Walken 9-0 — W Carson —
104 (1) HEART OF GOLD (Lady Charette) J Darjap 9-0 — R Cochrane —
105 (6) MAJLOOD (Midhurst-Al-Makroum) G Hartung 9-0 — S Cummins —
107 (2) PETRACO (E Hampshire) L Codd 9-0 — M Cartlidge —
108 (3) SMASH DANCES U Shattock D Stewart 9-0 — J Williams —
109 (7) GOLDI ARABELLA (Hawthornes-Stable Ltd) J Berry 9-0 — Pat Eddery —
BETTING: 5-2 Majlood, 3-1 Balaaat, 4-1 Heart of Darkness, 5-1 Celery Salt, 3rd Goldi Arabela, 12-1 Air Time, 3rd Petracoco, 2nd Shattock.

1989: THRENDL 9-0 W R Swinburn (Evans 9av) M Stoute 7 ran

BOLD ARABELLA (foaled May 20) by Never So Well (ex Bold As Brass) out of Bold As Brass, a Native Royalty mare who won over 2000m at a juvenile level. Her dam Native Royalty, a daughter of Native Royalty, who won 5 races in the States at up to a mile, a brother to smart juvenile Boldi Cazique and half-brother to the top class Boldi Cazique, 9-11m winner as a juvenile and 10-12m winner as a 3yo. Boldi Arabela is a yearling. BOLD ARABELLA (9-0) is 2nd in the Middle Park and Dewhurst Stakes. No Selection.

CELESTY SALT (May 8) by sprinter Mikado out of a dark mare by Eros to Eros. She has won 5 races in France and Italy, which are listed. Cost £12,000 as a yearling. HEART OF DARKNESS (Feb 11) by

2.30 RACAL CHESTERFIELD CUP (handicap: 222,515; 1m 2f) (7 runners)

BBC1

201 (8) 10-0409 MONASTERY 21 (CD,F,G) (J Ashburnham) Mrs L Pigott 4-9-10 — J Held 93 —
202 (7) 110-0025 DRINKING QUANTITY 7 (F,G) (The Queen) W Hargreaves 5-9-8 — J Carson 94 —
203 (6) 110-0026 PARADISE 69 (D,F,G) (A Spaniard) G Hartung 5-9-8 — R Cochrane 90 —
205 (5) 467-0115 SONG OF SORCERY 7 (D,F,G) (F Melting) G Hartung 5-9-5 — S Cummins 94 —
207 (8) 540-1916 TRUE DIVIDEND 24 (D,F) (North Edge Farm) L Cusack 4-9-8 — L Ditchfield 97 —
208 (7) 492-2009 FREE TOP 72 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Valentine) R Akhurst 5-9-1 — Pat Eddery 98 —
BETTING: 3-1 Unknown Quantity, 7-2 Parador, 4-1 Song Of Sorcery, 5-1 True Dividend, 7-1 Jelob, 10-1 Monteray, 12-1 Free Top.

1989: PELOUS 4-10 D blouse (12-1) W Jevons 10 ran

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2.0 VODAPAGE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,420; 6f) (6 runners)

SIS

107 (4) AIR TIME (Quarter Racing) P Mitchell 9-0 — G Carter —
102 (5) BALAAT (Hawarden-Al-Makroum) P Walken 9-0 — W Carson —
104 (1) HEART OF GOLD (Lady Charette) J Darjap 9-0 — R Cochrane —
105 (6) MAJLOOD (Midhurst-Al-Makroum) G Hartung 9-0 — S Cummins —
107 (2) PETRACO (E Hampshire) L Codd 9-0 — M Cartlidge —
108 (3) SMASH DANCES U Shattock D Stewart 9-0 — J Williams —
109 (7) GOLDI ARABELLA (Hawthornes-Stable Ltd) J Berry 9-0 — Pat Eddery —
BETTING: 5-2 Majlood, 3-1 Balaaat, 4-1 Heart of Darkness, 5-1 Celery Salt, 3rd Goldi Arabela, 12-1 Air Time, 3rd Petracoco, 2nd Shattock.

1989: THRENDL 9-0 W R Swinburn (Evans 9av) M Stoute 7 ran

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Fall and rise of the Vera Mary

For one yacht, the beginning of Cowes Week marks the end of a sentimental journey

With a permanent mooring in the social calendar between Glorious Goodwood and the start to the shooting season, Cowes Week, the oldest and grandest regatta in the world, gets under way today. Spruced up with bunting and banners, this historic Isle of Wight port remains much as it was when Queen Victoria gave the town and its festival the royal stamp of approval.

Kings, queens and their children have been attending Cowes Week ever since and the event, now sponsored by Land Rover, has thrived, with more than a thousand yachts swelling the already crowded marinas.

For one yacht, the Vera Mary, this year's event marks a nostalgic return. Built in Lympstone, Hampshire, in 1932 by the Berthon boatyard, the 72ft schooner was a gift from George V to Sir Philip Hunloke, the skipper of the then royal racing yacht Britannia.

Now the 26-ton yacht has been restored: the Vera Mary is fully restored by the America's Cup and Olympic yachtsman, Chris Law. "I first came across her in the brokerage columns. She was lying in Elba, but I couldn't afford the asking price," he says.

Bitterly disappointed, Mr Law, aged 35, lost the sale to a northerner who agreed to pay the asking price on the yacht's delivery back to British waters. "It wasn't until I mentioned her again to a broker that I found she never completed the voyage home. Caught in a mistral, the bulwarks were broken, the dinghy was washed overboard, the skipper broke his ankle and she was taken in a sorry state to Palma."

Mr Law caught the first available plane to Majorca and scoured the docks until he found the yacht. "It was 1am before we eventually tracked her down, moored between two huge motor yachts. I struck a deal almost immediately," he says.

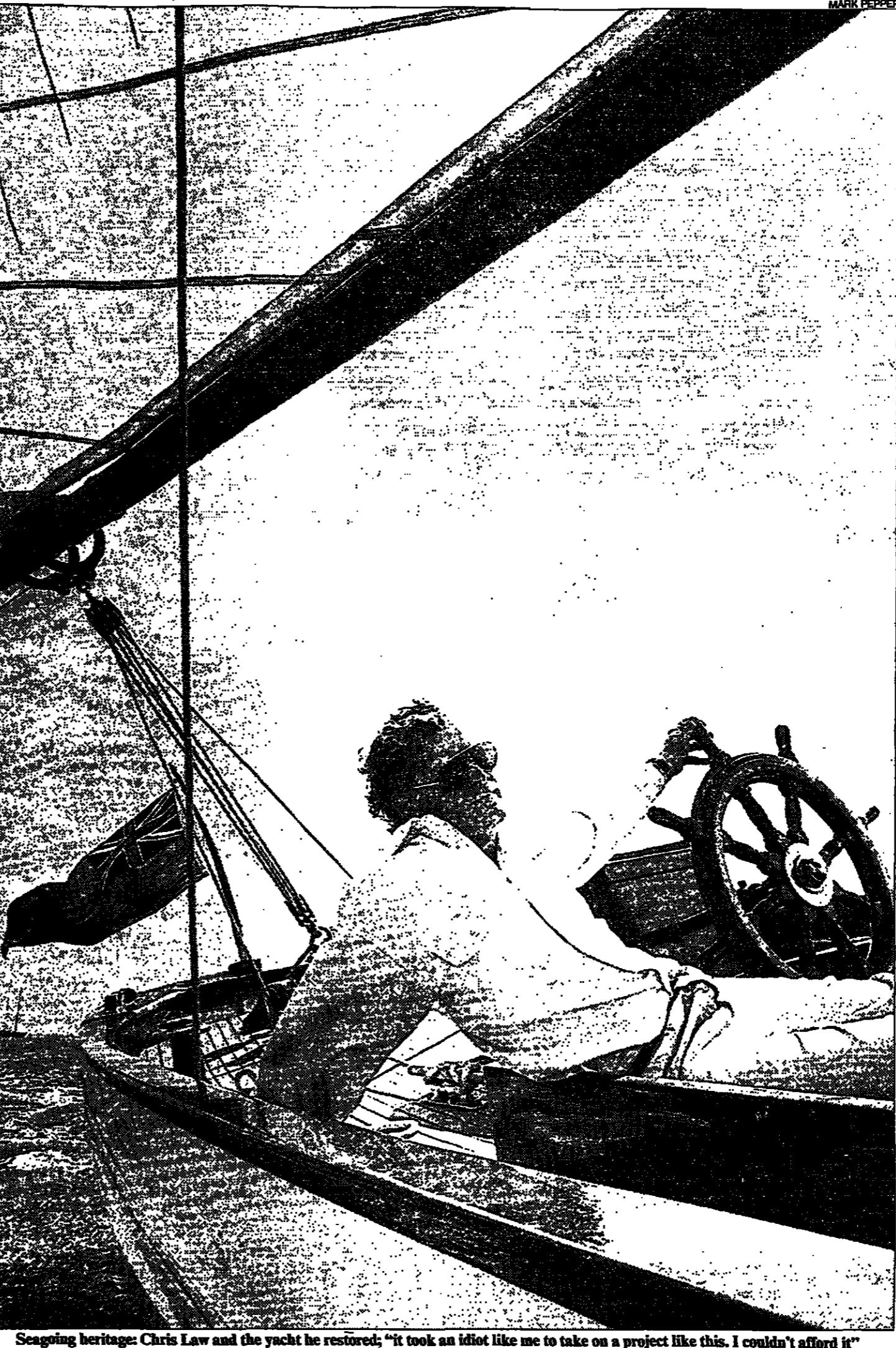
Restored: the Vera Mary

skipper: Peter Briggs, the Australian classic car collector and Admiral's Cup skipper, who gave Mr Law the money to complete his dream.

Mr Law, who is retained by Peter de Savary as prospective skipper for his second tilt at the America's Cup, will be using Vera Mary this week to entertain friends and corporate clients, in between racing a class 1 yacht.

"After a three-year lay-off from competitive sailing, the schooner project has given me a fresh enthusiasm for racing," says Mr Law, a former Finn class world champion who represented Britain in the 1984 Olympic Games. "Now, I'm looking at getting back into the Olympics."

He is also looking for fellow investors to share the joy of owning a classic yacht. "I'm more the custodian of a piece of history than the owner. She will be around for very much longer than me, and it is important that she remains in British hands," he says.



The Scots are on course

Grand Prix gives an opportunity to show international class

SCOTLAND's other intoxicating product is the beauty of the Clyde estuary (Keith Wheately writes). A year from now it will be home to the first-ever event of the International Formula One Class Yachting Grand Prix series. Identical 52ft racing yachts, crewed by professional sailors and star helmsmen, will travel a world circuit beginning on the Clyde and ending in Australia six months later.

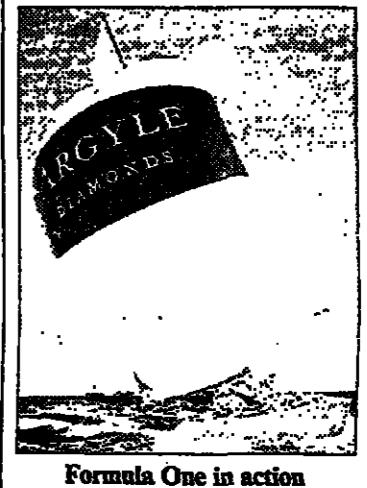
The prize money of approximately £550,000 is already beginning to attract interest from top skippers planning to assemble "works" teams.

Earlier this week, the first of the new class of yachts was taken to Gourock for trials. The boat is designed by Britain's Tony Castro and America's Bruce Nelson, a member of Dennis Conner's design group for the 1986/7 America's Cup. Trials have already shown her to be exceptionally fast downwind.

The Scottish Development Agency is a partner in the project. "This will give us an opportunity to let the world know that we are a world class sailing centre with international facilities," said Tom Bond, chief executive of the Scottish Tourist Board.

The Grand Prix organisers plan to take the yacht to Cowes Week and Mike McIntyre, Star class gold medalist at Seoul, and Harold Cudmore are among those sailors looking at the possibilities of the Grand Prix circuit.

"We calculate that a skipper needs to find half-a-million pounds of sponsorship for a full season's campaign," said Janice Batchelor of Challenge Group, who will operate the event in Britain. "Half of that is the cost of the yacht, the rest goes in travel and crew costs."



From boy racers to a family weekend

Having been an exuberant and successful dinghy sailor, Phil Morrison is now entering the caution of middle life. "Nice wide side-decks," he commented as he climbed aboard the new Sigma 35 for a test ride.

"On some boats of this sort you're in peril of your life if you go up to the foredeck," says the Devon-based designer and boatbuilder.

The Sigma is designed to appeal to the club-racer who wants to compete in a CHS division. Simon Limb, of Marine Projects, the company that builds Sigmas, says: "Both the Sigma 33 and the 38 are one-design boats, rather orientated to offshore racing. This new boat is perhaps somewhat more flexible in the uses you can put it to. Family cruising as well as Saturday afternoon racing."

Mr Morrison's first reaction was pleasure at the soft, wide-radius curves of the coach-roof. Its style is low and flowing, far more Ferrari than Ford. Bill Dixon is responsible for deck and interior, and David Thomas has drawn the rig, hull and keel, as he has done for earlier Sigmas.

"I don't like the very hard

NEW YACHT SEA-TEST

times of some GRP production boats that still look as if they were made of mahogany and teak," Mr Morrison says. "I didn't expect a wheel on a boat this size that is designed for racing. But being an ex-dinghy racing man I'm probably a lot more tiller-oriented."

Out on Plymouth Sound in a warm 10-knot breeze, his views on the steering became distinctly complimentary: "It's so positive and the tracking is excellent. There's very little fall-off through a tack."

Sigma equip the new boat with North sails; two genoas (135 per cent and 100 per cent), mainsail and tri-radial spinnaker. Extra sails for the super-keel racer will be available from North on a production basis rather than one-off basis, providing a considerable saving.

"Our basic philosophy is that you can put it in the water and go club-racing right out of the box," Mr Limb explained.

Meanwhile, Mr Morrison was trying unsuccessfully to induce a broach as we

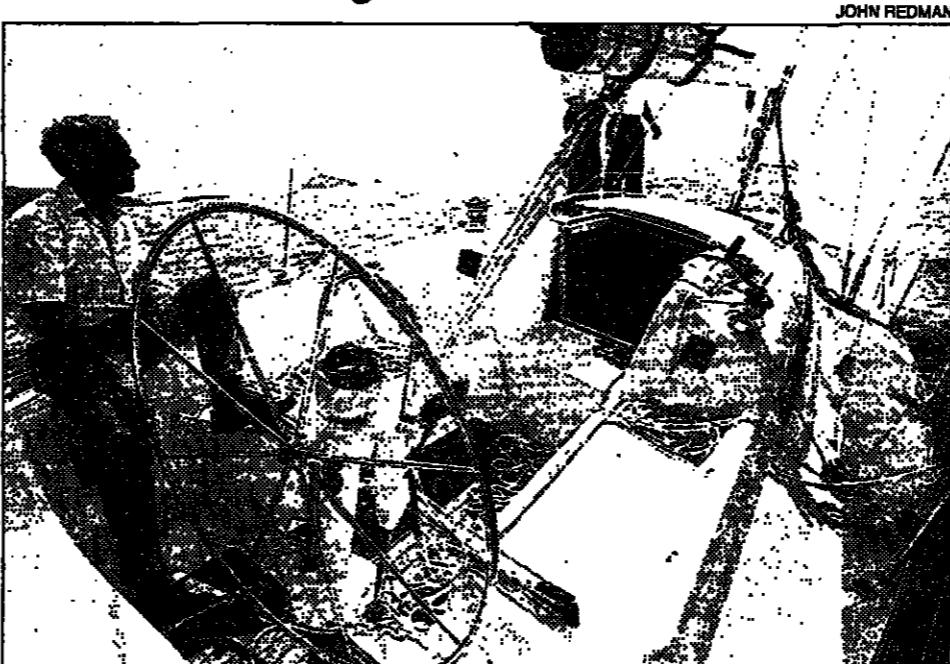
creamed along on a two-sail reach. "It's very well behaved," he shouted, almost disappointed at the boat's sure-footedness. "You'd have to be a bit of a cowboy to lose control of this one."

Below decks, the Sigma 35 is airy and uncluttered, helped by the lack of a floor-to-deckhead pillar in the galley area. Accommodation is for six, although four would be more comfortable.

The company hopes the Sigma 35 will break into the export market. One-designs are notoriously difficult to promote and support away from the producer's home country. A successful CHS and IMS racer like the 35 should be able to challenge Beneteau and Janneau yachts on their home ground. Mr Limb hopes that 1991 production will be around 40 boats, half of them for export.

A boat like a Janneau Selection is definitely a hairrier racing machine, but don't forget you've got the hassle of rounding up eight or nine crew every weekend," Mr Morrison says.

Probably the Sigma's closest rival in the club fleets will be the Beneteau 355. "It's lighter and would be quicker than us downwind," Mr Limb



On trial: the new Sigma 35, with Phil Morrison at the helm

says. "But we should lose them in a breeze."

In the interests of simplicity and rig safety, Sigma has decided against running backstays. But the mast comes fitted with tangs so that they can be fitted if a dedicated "tweaker" so wishes, a cus-

tomer choice of which Mr Morrison approves.

His final view of the Sigma 35 was that it was exactly the kind of well-made toy that affluent grown-ups should have, and not so demanding that only a muscular racing expert could sail it. "This is

scaled-down America's Cup with all the dip-pole gybes and so forth," he says. "You can imagine that you're Dennis Conner."

KEITH WHEATELY

• The Sigma 35, in ready-to-race state, costs £35,200 plus VAT. Delivery from early 1991.

Crusader lives to race again

WHAT does one do with America's Cup yachts once their racing days are over?

Owners of the famous pre-war J-Class yachts, such as Sir Thomas Sopwith, stripped them of their lead and left them to rust away in mud berths on the Hamble river until a future generation came along to resurrect them.

Smaller 12-metre yachts do not yet share the same classic status. Alan Bond's Australia II, the wing-keeled wonder that broke the longest sporting run in history, may have pride of place in a museum of Cup memorabilia at Fremantle, but, with few exceptions, the remainder have been left, forgotten, to gather dust and rainwater in sheds around the world.

White Crusader, Britain's challenger in the 1986/7 Cup series, might have suffered a similar ignominious fate, had Richard Matthews not had the imagination to see other possibilities when confronted with the boat in a part-exchange deal against a new 68ft Oyster sailing cruiser, now nearing completion for Graham Walker at Peter de Savary's yard in Falmouth. Instead of having her sealed down for beer cans, the east coast yachtsman converted the 68ft yacht for his own use.

Now fitted with an engine, lifelines and the bare essentials below, Crusader is the largest competitor to race at Cowes this year.

"Not everyone has the chance to sail on an America's Cup yacht, I just wanted to have some fun," says Mr Matthews, who has already won line honours in two east coast races and hopes to do the same this week.

and other quiet anchorages.

■ Tom McClean's madcap crossing of the Atlantic in a bottle continues. After setting out from New York on July 10, reports this week suggest that he has drifted past the halfway mark. "I'll be happy to be home," he radioed. Despite the four-poster bed that fills his cylindrical chamber, he complained: "The ride has been none too comfy."

adding with characteristic optimism: "But I hope to be in Falmouth by August 15."



Powerboat style: the Riva Aquarama Special

■ YES, this is the £220,000 Riva Aquarama Special that should have been seen speeding across this page last week. The powerboat shown was not exactly an imposter. She was the latest Riva 60, costing £1.5 million (to be featured in a later issue). To the first 25 readers who pointed out the slip, we are sending a copy of the latest Riva catalogue, itself a collector's item.

Nicole Swengley survived storms and saw dolphins during the Two-Handed Transatlantic Race. She wants to do it again

Once is just not enough

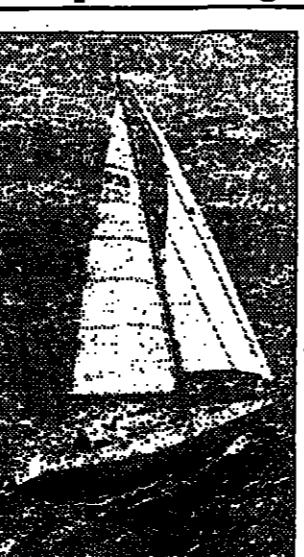
Crossing the finishing line at Newport, Rhode Island, and completing the Two-Handed Transatlantic Race about 28 days, 16 hours and 12 minutes after leaving Plymouth this summer is a moment I will never forget. Yet this classic four-yearly race, organised by the Royal Western Yacht Club, is under threat of extinction because of lack of sponsorship.

Ironically, the event's possible demise comes at a time when advances in navigation technology make the race more accessible to a growing number of experienced amateurs. For, unlike other yacht races, the Two-Handed Transatlantic is an event in

which international sailing superstars in their 60-footers and amateur competitors in much smaller craft are equally eligible for entry.

Among the rivals of my colleague Nigel Rowe and myself were a financial consultant, accountant, fellow journalist, actor, chartered surveyor and a farmer and his wife; all non-professional sailors with a sense of adventure.

Apart from the sailing, it is the camaraderie and friendly rivalry that draw many to this particular event. Yet although more women are getting afloat these days, the numbers of those attracted by the transatlantic races, both singlehanded and two-handed, remain remarkably low. Of



74 competitors who set off this time, only seven were women. Perhaps one reason for this is the lack of home comforts aboard. The daily shower or bath becomes an occasional strip-wash on deck; the flush

lavatory is replaced by a builder's bucket. Sleeping in short snatches, three hours on and three off throughout the night, may not appeal to some, while others might object to the lack of fresh food.

Living in a capsule smaller than the average bathroom means total lack of privacy. A long passage is demanding and relentless: if you argue you cannot walk away.

Cooking during a gale proved nearly impossible and sleep out of the question. Moving around inside the boat, sometimes at an angle of 45 degrees or more, meant lurching from one hand-hold to another like a zoo-caged chimpanzee. We would be carried to the top of 20ft waves only to be tipped over their crests to crash into steep-sided ravines. Sometimes the waves would break over the boat, rushing tons of water across the deck.

However, for every day that the weather scowled, there were several more when it smiled on us. Days when the sun shone from dawn to dusk and the breeze drew us swiftly across a softly undulating sea. Days when dolphins joined us for breakfast. Days when

To all of the above, yes.

Executive Editor David Brewerton

BUSINESS

Job figures prompt interest rate speculation

Dow slides as oil threatens recession

From JOHN DURIE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN financial markets were in turmoil for the second successive day yesterday amid a growing realisation that the invasion of Kuwait would force the American economy into a recession.

Wall Street plunged by more than 100 points to just above 2,760 points at lunchtime in New York, triggering automatic suspensions of program deals as billions of dollars were swapped into American bond markets.

Spot oil prices jumped by \$2.59 a barrel to \$25.70 for the West Texas Intermediate amid speculation on oil fu-

tures markets. This is a \$10 increase since June 30. Peter Butel, vice-president of Merrill Lynch, said: "This is one of the craziest days I've ever seen on the market. There is simply pandemonium and no one can safely say just where prices will end."

The impact of Iraq's conquest was magnified by July employment figures in America well below expectations. Unemployment rose from 5.2 to 5.3 per cent and employment in the month dropped by 57,000 jobs against estimates of an increase of 120,000.

The bond markets expected the employment data produce an early cut in interest rates.

But the Federal Reserve Board indicated in its market operations that it would wait until next week at least before cutting the overnight funds rate from 8 per cent.

Dick Berner, an economist with Salomon Brothers, said: "While the employment figures are not always a reliable guide, the bottom line from the figures is that the US economy is very weak and this will increase the Fed's bias towards cutting interest rates further."

Darwin Beck, an economist at First Boston, said: "It is highly likely the Fed will cut rates by at least another 0.25 per cent before next week's

rate cut this year."

The invasion of Kuwait was taking precedence on the stock market. David Hale, an economist at Kemper Financial Services, said: "It is now clear the US economy is moving quickly to a recession as oil prices of \$25 a barrel will take between 1.5 and 2 per cent off GNP."

In the year to June, American GNP grew at just 1.2 per cent and early estimates for third quarter growth had pointed to 1.5 per cent.

Mr Hale said: "The Fed is in an unavoidable position as it wants to cut interest rates but as the oil price rises will simply fuel inflation while cutting consumer spending."

The American oil industry was in confusion over just how the government would interpret its freeze order on Iraqi assets. The order on one reading says all Iraqi oil will be frozen even if American oil companies have already paid for their supplies.

The main oil companies spent yesterday negotiating with the government, trying to have the orders clarified so that only new orders or those not paid for will be frozen.

The Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), based in London, has also taken action to stop its assets being plundered, especially where there is no legal freeze, including Switzerland. The KIO has instructed brokers world-wide that anybody trying to sell its assets will be doing so illegally.

Dollar buying dried up as events in the Gulf quietened. The currency closed down half a pence at DM1.5929 in London.

The pound, by contrast, regained some of its petrocurrency characteristics, closing up 0.3 at 94.2 on the trade-weighted index. Sterling rose 60 points to \$1.8560 and 0.78 pence to DM2.9577.

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Stephen Adamson, the joint administrator, said that he

Dealers await embargo decision

By MARTIN BARROW

OIL prices remained volatile, affecting share prices and currencies, as traders awaited the outcome of weekend talks between Western governments. These are expected to result in a trade embargo against Iraq, including oil.

In London, the price of September Brent approached \$23.50 a barrel in late trading, against a closing price of \$22.25 the previous day, after a strong opening in New York.

But with dealers waiting for a decision on the possibility of sanctions against Iraq and an embargo of Iraqi oil, Brent crude failed to test Thursday's highs of almost \$24 a barrel.

Opponents ruled out an emergency session but reaffirmed their intention to ensure that quotas agreed last month in Geneva were enforced. Gintan Kartasasmita, Indonesia's energy minister, said in Jakarta: "Opec's agreement still exists whatever happens, and I expect Opec countries to stick to their quotas."

"It should not be thought that we are happy with good prices because of the conflict. We want good oil prices but as a result of adherence to the Opec agreement to maintain stable oil prices beneficial to both consumers and producers."

In Tokyo, shipping officials said Japanese ship owners may impose an industry-wide restriction on entry into the Gulf.

The Japanese finance ministry has asked banks and securities companies to make strict checks on any requests for withdrawals or transfers of money from the Kuwaiti government or its affiliated agencies, said Masami Kogay, the vice finance minister.

West Germany will freeze all Kuwaiti assets to prevent Iraq from seizing them, say government sources. Government guarantees on exports to Kuwait will also be suspended.

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Stephen Adamson, joint administrator, putting proposals for the survival of British & Commonwealth Merchant Bank to creditors yesterday

Bank to clarify freeze order on Kuwaiti assets

By GRAHAM SEARJANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

Sir Adam Ridley: grateful requiring payments will require approval from a special unit at the Bank.

A helpline has been set up for companies or members of the public on 071-601 3309.

A detailed order on the impact of the freeze and arrangements for future business will be issued next week. Priority will be given to Kuwaiti citizens in London who may need to withdraw funds.

The pound has been set up for companies or members of the public on 071-601 3309.

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Tootal bid alert as Coats sales permit offer

By COLIN CAMPBELL

TOOTAL Group is once again on bid alert now that Coats Viyella has conformed with instructions from the Department of Trade and Industry and disposed of its British thread business and a 20 per cent stake in Gutermann, the German thread manufacturer.

The divestments, recommended by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, automatically restore full voting rights attached to Coats Viyella's 29.9 per cent holding in Tootal, and give Coats Viyella freedom to propose a fresh takeover/merger if it should so wish.

Sir David Alliance, Coats Viyella's chairman and chief executive, would not be drawn on whether his group was getting ready to mount a fresh bid.

Sir David still believes that the commercial and industrial logic of a merged Coats Viyella and Tootal remains, but says that he is not

prepared to pay a "silly price" for Tootal.

Toots Viyella has also extricated itself from having to reduce its 29.9 per cent stake in Tootal to 9.9 per cent — which it would have been obliged to do had it not agreed to the MMC recommendations.

The cat-and-mouse game between Coats Viyella and Tootal continues. The two groups have been in a love-hate state since their initially agreed merger was referred for an MMC reference in June of last year, after which, in December, they called off all formal talks.

In May of last year, the two groups had agreed merger terms on the basis of one Coats share and £4 in cash for every Tootal share, valuing all of Tootal at £395 million, and equivalent to £138.4p. There was a cash alternative of £135p a Tootal share.

By late November, however, it was indicated in investment circles that if Coats Viyella did proceed with a renewed offer for Tootal, it would be

at a price less than that originally indicated.

Neither side has ever formally commented about that development, but on December 20 Tootal formally said that it had withdrawn from discussions regarding a renewed offer from Coats Viyella.

Toots added yesterday that, since that date, there has been no formal discussions between the two sides.

There have, however, been informal talks between individuals — but in the higher ranks of both companies, the battle lines have long since been drawn.

Yesterday, Sir David said: "We will not pay a silly price."

Geoffrey Maddrell, Tootal's chief executive, yesterday said: "If anybody wants Tootal, then they are going to have to pay for it. Nobody is going to take Tootal on the cheap."

Meanwhile, Coats Viyella's 29.9 per cent Tootal holding is valued in its own books at 65p a share.

Toots shares yesterday closed at

79.5p, up 2½p. Coats Viyella shares closed at 120p, down 2p.

Mr Maddrell said that although his group had entered last year's talks with Tootal in good faith and with a degree of confidence, "as time has passed, the differences have become wider".

He said: "Our managers, many of whom originally asked 'Well, how is it going to work? Who is going to run the show?', are now saying 'We told you so'."

"Meanwhile, we are all getting on with running our business in a climate which is difficult for the entire textile industry."

Although both groups have international exposure, sterling's strength is not helping home operations.

Interim reports from both of the groups are due soon. Tootal's is due out on October 1, and Coats Viyella's on September 13.

The date of a new Coats bid for Tootal is not as easy to determine. Sir David is to go on holiday next week.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Record white knight bid for Easterbrook lapses

RECORD HOLDINGS' £13.2 million white knight takeover bid for the privately owned cutting tools company Easterbrook Allard has lapsed, leaving the Sheffield-based power tool maker with a 25.8 per cent stake in its former target. The announcement means control of Easterbrook passes into the hands of James Wilkes, the engineering company, which last month won a court hearing over a disputed 10 per cent stake in the target. This allowed Wilkes to claim more than 50 per cent acceptances.

Record has also announced a 13.3 per cent increase in interim pre-tax profits to £2.1 million for the six months to 30 June. Turnover was down marginally at £18.8 million. Michael Mallett, chairman, said he did not expect to see any improvement in demand while high interest rates persist. The interim dividend increased by 15 per cent to 1.15p.

SG Warburg in Swiss deal

SG WARBURG, the merchant bank, is consolidating its position in Switzerland by buying the other half of SG Warburg Soditic, its capital market joint venture, for £23 million. It is also selling its half share of Bank SG Warburg Soditic, an investment manager in Zurich, to Mercury Asset Management, of which Warburg owns 75 per cent, for £22 million. Williams Holdings had been a shareholder for some time.

AMS in takeover talks

AMS INDUSTRIES, the troubled studio-equipment manufacturer, has announced that it is in talks that may lead to its being taken over. A statement from the company said that, if successful, the proposed takeover would "bring some benefit of synergy to both parties".

The announcement comes during a period of sharp decline in demand for the Lancashire-based company's digital audio hard disc products. Turnover in the six months to May 31 fell 21 per cent to £2.81 million. As a result, interim pre-tax losses increased nearly fourfold on last year to £375,000. There is no interim dividend.

Lincoln back in the red

LINCOLN HOUSE, the USM furniture group, has fallen back into losses after last year reporting its first profit for five years. In the six months to June the company made a pre-tax loss of £283,000, compared to a first-half profit of £165,000 the year before. Again there is no dividend. Group turnover fell from £10.3 million to £7.8 million.

Windsor chief resigns

PHILIP REID, who joined Windsor, the Lloyd's insurance broker, in January, has resigned as chief executive, in circumstances described by the company as "amicable".

Mr Reid joined Windsor in what was seen as a key step in the group's diversification plans. Last December, Windsor took a 75 per cent interest in Commercial Holdings, a Sheffield-based financial services company that intended to establish a franchise network to brokering commercial loans. However, Commercial went into liquidation at the beginning of July after "substantial losses". This caused a £900,000 write-down in Windsor's investment in Commercial.

BA joins Logica in software venture

By PHILIP PANGALOS

BRITISH AIRWAYS and Logica, the computer software group, have agreed to establish a joint venture that will provide software services to the air transport industry worldwide.

Speedwing Logica, which will be 51 per cent owned by British Airways and 49 per cent by Logica, plans to start operating on September 1.

It is expected to grow from about 30 people in the first six months to more than 150 people over the next three years. Speedwing Logica will operate according to Logica's methods.

BA has already sold software and services to over 130 other airlines and commercial companies, and will provide Speedwing Logica with a minimum level of software development business and rights to sell certain existing British Airways' systems.

The new company will develop systems for, and provide staff resources to, BA as well as developing, selling and supporting software systems for the air transport industry worldwide.

It will have exclusive marketing rights for the systems it develops, and will build up a strong third party customer base.

Initially, Bedford Associates, BA's American subsidiary which specialises in transaction processing facility (TPF) systems, will remain outside the new company. However, in 18 to 24 months the possibility of bringing it closer together with Speedwing Logica will be examined.

David Mann, Logica's managing director, said: "The joint venture should enable us to capitalise on a formidable combined capability much more forcefully than either of us could have achieved alone."

Mr Mann estimates that turnover could reach £10 million in the next few years. He said the joint venture should make a small contribution to this year's profits, although more substantial benefits will come later.

Mr Mann added: "We see the airline industry worldwide as an exciting sector. They are all spending a lot more money on information systems."

British Airways' shares rose 3½p to 189p, while Logica firmed by 3p to 205p.

Barclays to sell Mercantile after 31% interim profit fall

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS Bank is selling its Mercantile Credit finance house and is searching for a financial services or overseas acquisition, after suffering a 31 per cent slump in profits in the first half of the year. Mercantile Credit is expected to fetch about £200 million.

Profits before Third World debt write-offs fell £262 million to £591 million, at the bottom end of City forecasts, because of a threefold increase in other bad-debt provisions which were not losing money on the routes.

"We know from British Airways' published accounts that in 1989-90 they achieved a turnover of £476 million on UK routes and £1,275 million on European routes. Yet they managed a combined UK and European profit of just £17 million, and claim they are unable to break down the UK element of this," said Mr Bishop.

BA fares on European routes were, on a pro rata basis, at least 30 per cent higher than on UK routes, making it clear where the profit came from, he added.

Mr Bishop has appealed to the Civil Aviation Authority to order BA to reduce Scottish shuttle services and the interest is scheduled for October.

"We believe the claim by British Airways that they are making money on UK trunk routes could be misleading and indicates that they are able to break down profitability on these routes."

"We challenge them to disprove our belief that they are incurring losses."

Commenting on its shuttle services, British Airways said: "The overall market is up, our market share is up and both passenger numbers and yields are healthy."

"We are making money, but as a matter of policy we never break down any individual route as it is commercially sensitive."

British Midland admits that its own profits on the routes are "marginally" and accuses BA of flooding the Heathrow-Glasgow service with excess capacity, leading to lower load factors for both airlines.

The airline would have to sustain larger losses or raise fares if they were to break even, the BMA spokesman added.

G&B buys part of Coloroll

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE RECEIVERS at Coloroll have sold part of the home furnishings group's wallpaper business to Graham & Brown, the privately owned wallpaper manufacturer, for an undisclosed sum. The sale is the fourth major disposal at the group in a fortnight.

Graham & Brown has bought about half Coloroll's wall coverings business, with an annual turnover of around £28 million.

G&B has acquired Coloroll's Blackburn factory and the jobs of the 137 employees there have been secured. G&B has also bought some of the plant and machinery from Coloroll's Gainsborough factory where the receivers made 200 employees redundant yesterday.

The acquisition is the first non-management buyout of a major Coloroll subsidiary and is expected to double G&B's business, taking turnover to around £30 million a year after some of Coloroll's businesses have been discontinued. David Brown, G&B joint managing director, said there are some export businesses that are not profitable.

Bill Roberts, of Ernst & Young, the receiver, said he is in talks with interested parties for all the remaining Coloroll subsidiaries, which include the glassware business at Chesterfield, the remainder of the wall covering business, and Edinburgh Crystal.

To date, over £45 million has been raised from the sale of subsidiaries. Coloroll went into receivership in June, owing more than £300 million.



Feeling the heat: Sir John Quinton, Barclays chairman, yesterday

Grim numbers game in East Germany

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

EAST GERMANY'S hopes of adopting a free-market system are suffering another hitch because many of its companies will not be able to install proper accounting systems by end-October as planned.

The Treuhandanstalt, East Germany's privatisation agency, said that there would be "considerable difficulties" before East German companies could enjoy this final blessing of capitalism.

The admission highlights yet another miscalculation by the authorities of both East

and West Germany, which appear to have underestimated the administrative consequences and costs of German monetary union.

The delays expected in establishing accounts are partly due to the low priority attached to the problem by the East German government. A law to establish company audits has yet to be approved by the Volkskammer, now in recess. The situation will last another five weeks.

West German auditors are daunted by the task of establishing opening Deutschkredit balance sheets for East Germany's 8,000 Volkseigene Betriebe within a period of only eight weeks. There are only 6,000 auditors in West Germany, and the largest practice, KPMG Deutsche Treuhand-Gesellschaft, part of the British Peat Marwick McLintock, has had to deploy regional staff in areas as far off as the Black Forest to keep up with preparatory work.

They face investigating East German companies that used to have a somewhat different attitude towards accounts. There were concepts of profit,

assets and liabilities. East German managers confined themselves to providing statistics of sales, raw material inputs and costs.

The Treuhandanstalt says that most East German managers did not know the concept of "reserves" even a month after capitalism's arrival in the country.

"How do you value a Trabant car?" asked Erik Sonnenmann, a Berlin-based KPMG auditor. An East German company would probably have paid some 17,000 Ostmarks, but the car, considered East Germany's corporate undertakers.

of rust even when new, will fetch almost nothing today.

Auditors, unable to work on the historic-cost basis, need to establish the so-called reconstruction value of a company, the amount necessary to build an identical firm.

Worse still, the example of the Trabant car highlights the possibility that West German auditors may simply arrive at the conclusion that East German companies are worth little, if anything. In that case, West German auditors would become East Germany's corporate undertakers.

The company, whose portfolio consists of some of the most expensive properties in Hong Kong, has been trimming its residential and non-central assets since 1986, in a restructuring that turned it into one of the most profitable listed firms in the colony.

The World Trade Centre

has a club and cinema.

Shareholders lose out in new deal

Management team buys Sock Shop for £3.25m

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE ASSETS of Sock Shop International, the niche retailer which was founded by Sophie Mirman and her husband Richard Ross and which at one time was valued at more than £70 million on the USM, have been sold for £3.25 million to a new management team backed by Murray Johnstone, the Scottish financial group. The new company will be called Sock Shop Holdings.

Shareholders and creditors will receive nothing in the deal. After the assets have been sold off, BDO Binder Hamlyn, the Sock Shop administrators, are expected to put the company into liquidation.

The new management team is led by Juan Olaso, who becomes managing director. He was formerly managing director of Omega UK, the watch manufacturer. Barclay Douglas, a director of Murray Johnstone Developments, will become finance director. A chairman will be appointed shortly. As well as Murray Johnstone, two business

who helped arrange the deal, Paul McGlade and William Fitch, will have a stake in the business. Mr Fitch will become a non-executive director of Sock Shop.

In addition to the purchase price, Murray Johnstone has invested £3.75 million for working capital. The company will have no bank borrowings and initially Murray Johnstone will have a controlling stake. Barclays Bank is expected to write off around £1.5 million of Sock Shop's debt.

The new management team has acquired 50 British shops from the administrators and has plans to re-open 35 of the British shops which were closed by the administrators in May. The 11 French shops have also been purchased.

Murray Johnstone believes Sock Shop, which made a loss of £3.9 million in the six months to last August, may be in profit on a month-to-month basis within 90 days. He says the British market can support up to 120 Sock Shops and there are plans for eventual expansion in

Europe. The new team has no plans to re-enter the US market where Sock Shop originally incurred significant losses.

No further redundancies are expected among the existing 200 Sock Shop staff, and the re-opening of the 35 British shops, which were closed in May, will provide a further 80 jobs.

Miss Mirman, who has plans to go back into retailing, said last night: "Having been determined to remain with Sock Shop during the difficult period under administration, Richard and I are pleased that the future of the business is secured. We are obviously disappointed that the final chapter hasn't brought an entirely happy ending and we hope that the dedication, honesty and commitment we have always endeavoured to provide to our products, staff and customers will continue under the new owners".

Peter DuBuisson, senior insolvency partner at BDO Binder Hamlyn, said the main purpose of the administration had been to find investors for the company. Peter DuBuisson, senior insolvency partner at BDO Binder Hamlyn, said the main purpose of the administration had been to find investors for the company.



Blackspur receiver faces tangled web of leases and deals

By A CORRESPONDENT

CONFUSION and frustration surround the demise of the Blackspur group, the printing equipment supplier that specialised in flexible leasing contracts, which were favoured by Atlantic Computers, the British & Commonwealth subsidiary now in administrative receivership. Relations between Blackspur's receiver, Arthur Andersen, and the directors of the company are reported to be cool.

"It is a massive exercise to find out who has got what equipment," says Tony Brierley, the administrator. "We are still pulling together information," he adds.

Mr Brierley is involved in a legal wrangle over the validity of Blackspur's lease on its Albert Road headquarters in Manchester.

It appears that Blackspur's pension fund bought the Manchester premises around the time Blackspur was reorganised in late 1988. The lease agreement, however, is said to date from this year.

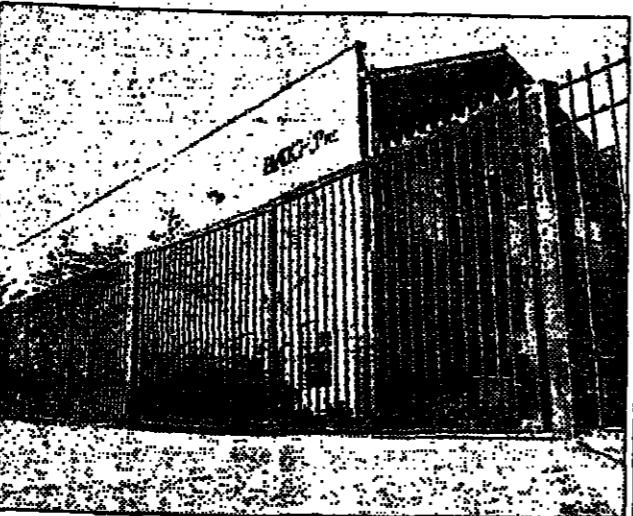
The receivers were hoping to realise some value for the lease. But if it proves to be invalid, Blackspur will be forced by its own pension fund to move out of its offices.

Until a few years ago Blackspur was simply a better-than-average second-hand printing machinery dealer. It was restructured to form Blackspur Group plc. The aim was to pave the way for an eventual flotation in a bid to mirror Atlantic's spectacular progress ten years previously.

In late 1987 the two founders, Steve Kellar and John Glancy, were approached by Vernon Davies, co-founder of Atlantic Computers, and Nick Thomas, previously Atlantic's UK sales director. This was shortly before B & C's takeover of Atlantic.

Mr Davies and Mr Thomas took a 50 per cent stake in Blackspur plc and Blackspur Graphics for £2.7 million. They also acquired Blackspur Leasing for £1. By this time Mr Davies had resigned from the Atlantic board. He later became chairman of Blackspur.

At Atlantic, Mr Davies and his co-founder, John



Blackspur's headquarters: legal tangle over lease

Foulston, had invented the lease, a lease that was in effect two contracts. The first consisted of a funding high-interest finance contract between the customer and the bank, with Atlantic reserving the right to buy back the equipment at a nominal value. This provided Atlantic with cash-up front.

The second was a management contract, which allowed the customer to swap, upgrade or walk away from the lease at pre-set dates. Should the customer want to walk away from the lease, Atlantic undertook to pay the last year's instalments at the right price.

The flaw in the whole scheme was that more and more leases had to be written so that the extra front-end cash generated could be used to cover the back-end debts of earlier deals.

Blackspur's leases were modelled on the same principles. However, many of its customers, small commercial printers, were badly hit by the downturn in the economy earlier this year. This led to high rates of company failure and subsequent defaults on lease payments, forcing Blackspur to step in to honour commitments to the banks funding the deals and finally pushing it into receivership last month.

Merchant banks, which funded many of the leases, are now busy trying to untangle the complex deals. But many printers, discovering that the management contract is now worthless, are refusing to sign lease agreements with the

banks. Another area of dispute between the receiver and directors of Blackspur is the question of the value of equipment bought by Rhynie, an offshore company set up by Mr Davies, Blackspur's chairman. Rhynie bought £3 million worth of Blackspur stock seven weeks before the receivers were called in.

Mr Kellar, Blackspur's deputy managing director, says that this was done at his best to provide an urgently needed cash injection. However, the receiver is not satisfied that all the transactions were at the right price.

Some of the equipment bought by Rhynie is now being sold by Kellar plc, which was set up by Mr Kellar as a holding company last autumn.

Another problem for the receivers is that like Atlantic, before its takeover by B & C, a large part of Blackspur's equity is held offshore. Chrysalis Trust holds shares on behalf of Mr Davies and Mr Thomas. This trust was set up by Moores Rowland, the London accountancy firm for which Nigel Eastaway, Blackspur's finance director, works as a tax consultant.

According to the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Mr Eastaway is a partner in Moores Rowland's St Helier practice in Jersey, where the Chrysalis Trust has its registered office.

The second offshore company, holding shares, Panamanian-based Maplewood Financial Corporation, also has a Jersey office, shared with Chrysalis.

National Grid terms worry bankers

By JONATHAN PRYNN

BRITISH clearing banks are baulking at the terms being demanded by National Grid for the credit facility it must put in place before the electricity privatisation in December.

The mandate to arrange the facility, which is expected to be for about £750 million, has not yet been awarded. Five banks, including three clearers, Barclays, National Westminster and TSB, are in the running. National Grid is arguing that its status as a monopoly buyer of electrical power from the generating companies makes it a better credit risk than the 12 regional distribution companies.

The distributors are expected to announce margins on their facilities of about 17 to 20 basis points over London inter-bank offered rate (Libor), and fees of about 7.5 to 8 basis points. National Grid is pushing for even finer terms.

The aggressive 15 basis point margin and 7 basis point fee structure that National Grid is looking for would be a bitter pill for the clearers to swallow. One described such a price structure as "cloud cuckoo land".

As well as cutting profit margins, the clearers say that the deal would carry little of the high-margin follow-up business that banks rely on when they participate in a large, finely priced corporate loan facility.

This is in contrast to the distributors, a number of which will be looking for lucrative project financing packages to fund constructions of their own power generators, after privatisation. Because of this, the clearing banks are claiming that a deal priced as finely as National Grid is demanding would present problems at the syndication stage.

Another clearing bank said that syndication at the prices being talked about would be "pretty dicey".

However, Manufacturers Hanover and Credit Suisse First Boston, the other two banks involved, are taking a more sanguine view. A banker at Manufacturers predicted that there would be follow-up business in the form of capital markets refinancings as well as some project finance business, such as off-balance-sheet financing for new transmission plants.

Private client broking must brush up its act to survive



KENNETH FLEET

in approach and emphasis between them. It might make sense to put NI Group and Allied Provincial Services together, but Mr Woodhead and Bernard Solomon of Allied Provincial Services are unlikely to see eye to eye.

Two banks, Royal Bank of Scotland and the TSB, have looked at National Investment Holdings but the buyer is expected to be CCM (Capel-Cure Myers asset management group).

I cannot see private client broking going back to a cottage industry made up of small partnerships. But if it is to survive the competition, especially of the banks, it has to decide what services it wishes to offer, structure commissions and fees properly and do some effective marketing.

Private clients were badly burnt in the 1987 crash and they do not return quickly to the scene of the fire. They have been given a raw deal since Big Bang in 1986. Major broking firms have shown virtually no interest in them; they have been passed from firm to firm; the International Stock Exchange, as an institution, seems not to care; and costs of dealing have been stacked up against them.

And it is not ironic that despite the Financial Services Act, the Securities and Investments Board, the statutory regulatory organisations and a mountain of rule books, it has taken the collapse of British & Commonwealth to draw attention to the risks to private clients of a broking firm (in this case Stock Beech) controlled by a financial services group that also has an in-house bank?

Panic out of order

Although investors and dealers have been in a slightly more cautious mood of late, any inclination to sell equities has been restrained by the market's relatively inexpensive rating and fund managers' fears of getting their timing wrong for the second time this year. It was as if selling shares had gone out of fashion. But it can come back, and did on Thursday in response to Iraq's annexing of Kuwait.

No one should underestimate the chances of Iraq's embarking on further military adventures or sparking off a major conflagration. What is fact as distinct from speculation is a rise in the oil price to \$23 which will be sustained. The balance of power within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has swung toward the hawks

with a vengeance. We may be looking at \$23 a barrel, which would be a third higher than the 1989 average. For comfort we could compare this with a quadrupling of the price in 1973-74 and a doubling in 1979-80.

Looking at the oil price parochially, the early and visible impact is on the price of petrol and the retail price index. Double-digit inflation is not what John Major needs. It will delay the first fall in interest rates and may put back the date pencilled in for joining the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System — two important factors in the City's political and market calculations.

There is also a possibility that higher oil prices will push the economy into recession. The latest Confederation of British Industry survey of industrial trends and figures for retail sales, housing starts, car sales and unemployment suggest that high interest rates are having their (delayed) effect in slowing the economy down. Oil at \$23 a barrel could accelerate this process but that would not be the end of the world.

In sum, though the bias of the equity market is probably still slightly downward, it will keep its nerve and not panic unless Iraq strikes again.

Friendly Farley

Sir Kit McMahon is discovering at the Midland it is not easy to run a clearing bank and always remain popular with staff, customers and shareholders. But there are exceptions. "Rob" Farley for one, who retires at the end of next month as deputy chief executive of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

Rob (Henry Edward) must be one of the few remaining active links with the National Bank that he joined in 1947 and became, in time, manager of the main City office. His first merger was in the formation of Williams & Glyn's where he was responsible for the northern region. His connections with Manchester remain strong. Next to Scotland — Edinburgh — where he was managing director of the Royal Bank prior to the merger with Williams & Glyn's. He did much to smooth the way that particular marriage. In the new bank he was a director and chief general manager before reaching his present position in October 1986.

He is the sort of banker most of us recognise and approve of: helpful, human, humorous with a thorough understanding of the banking concerns of real people. He played a formative and formidable part in taking the bank into home loans in competition with building societies.

Usefully for a banker, Rob is interested in all forms of rough sport. He will be missed in Lombard Street but seen more often, I suspect, on the golf course.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1989 High Low Company	Prec Bid Offer Change Over p % P/E	1990 High Low Company	Prec Bid Offer Change Over p % P/E	1990 High Low Company	Prec Bid Offer Change Over p % P/E	1990 High Low Company	Prec Bid Offer Change Over p % P/E
245 ABS Barrow	38 36	246 ABS Barrow	38 36	247 ABS Barrow	38 36	248 ABS Barrow	38 36
249 ABC Systems	125 120	250 ABC Systems	125 120	251 ABC Systems	125 120	252 ABC Systems	125 120
253 ABC Systems	125 120	254 ABC Systems	125 120	255 ABC Systems	125 120	256 ABC Systems	125 120
257 ABC Systems	125 120	258 ABC Systems	125 120	259 ABC Systems	125 120	260 ABC Systems	125 120
261 ABC Systems	125 120	262 ABC Systems	125 120	263 ABC Systems	125 120	264 ABC Systems	125 120
265 ABC Systems	125 120	266 ABC Systems	125 120	267 ABC Systems	125 120	268 ABC Systems	125 120
269 ABC Systems	125 120	270 ABC Systems	125 120	271 ABC Systems	125 120	272 ABC Systems	125 120
273 ABC Systems	125 120	274 ABC Systems	125 120	275 ABC Systems	125 120	276 ABC Systems	125 120
277 ABC Systems	125 120	278 ABC Systems	125 120	279 ABC Systems	125 120	280 ABC Systems	125 120
281 ABC Systems	125 120	282 ABC Systems	125 120	283 ABC Systems	125 120	284 ABC Systems	125 120
285 ABC Systems	125 120	286 ABC Systems	125 120	287 ABC Systems	125 120	288 ABC Systems	125 120
289 ABC Systems	125 120	290 ABC Systems	125 120	291 ABC Systems	125 120	292 ABC Systems	125 120
293 ABC Systems	125 120	294 ABC Systems	125 120	295 ABC Systems	125 120	296 ABC Systems	125 120
297 ABC Systems	125 120	298 ABC Systems	125 120	299 ABC Systems	125 120	300 ABC Systems	125 120
301 ABC Systems	125 120	302 ABC Systems	125 120	303 ABC Systems	125 120	304 ABC Systems	125 120
305 ABC Systems	125 120	306 ABC Systems	125 120	307 ABC Systems	125 120	308 ABC Systems	125 120
309 ABC Systems	125 120	310 ABC Systems	125 120	311 ABC Systems	125 120	312 ABC Systems	125 120
313 ABC Systems	125 120	314 ABC Systems	125 120	315 ABC Systems	125 120	316 ABC Systems	125 120
317 ABC Systems	125 120	318 ABC Systems	125 120	319 ABC Systems	125 120	320 ABC Systems	125 120
321 ABC Systems	125 120	322 ABC Systems	125 120	323 ABC Systems	125 120	324 ABC Systems	125 120
325 ABC Systems	125 120	326 ABC Systems	125 120	327 ABC Systems	125 120	328 ABC Systems	125 120
330 ABC Systems	125 120	331 ABC Systems	125 120	332 ABC Systems	125 120	333 ABC Systems	125 120
335 ABC Systems	125 120	336 ABC Systems	125 120	337 ABC Systems	125 120	338 ABC Systems	125 120
341 ABC Systems	125 120	342 ABC Systems	125 120	343 ABC Systems	125 120	344 ABC Systems	125 120
349 ABC Systems	125 120	350 ABC Systems	125 120	351 ABC Systems	125 120	352 ABC Systems	125 120
357 ABC Systems	125 120	358 ABC Systems	125 120	359 ABC Systems	125 120	360 ABC Systems	125 120
365 ABC Systems	125 120	366 ABC Systems	125 120	367 ABC Systems	125 120	368 ABC Systems	125 120
373 ABC Systems	125 120	374 ABC Systems	125 120	375 ABC Systems	125 120	376 ABC Systems	125 120
383 ABC Systems	125 120	384 ABC Systems	125 120	385 ABC Systems	125 120	386 ABC Systems	125 120
393 ABC Systems	125 120	394 ABC Systems	125 120	395 ABC Systems			

THE TIMES

UNIT TRUST STATISTICS

The four end columns, showing the value of £100 over one month and one year and their subsequent ranking within their sector, are based on offer to bid prices without income re-invested. Unit trusts founded within the last year have been included in the one-year column.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add these prices to your account for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Losses reduced at close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 23. Dealings ended yesterday. \$Contango day August 6. Settlement day August 13.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 34).

Portfolio

PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£8,000
Claims required for +181 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No.	Company	Group	Code or Isin	Price	Offer	Change	Close	%	P/E
1	Delyf Packagings	Paper, Print, Ads		15	15	-1	15	0	17
2	Clifford Foods 'A'	Foods		25	25	-1	25	0	25
3	STC (aa)	Electricals		115	115	-1	115	0	115
4	Kem Energy	Oil/Gas		21	21	-1	21	0	21
5	Schles Grp	Electricals		115	115	-1	115	0	115
6	Nat West (aa)	Banks, Discount		120	120	-1	120	0	120
7	Brown Shipley	Banks, Discount		115	115	-1	115	0	115
8	Euro Leisure	Leisure		115	115	-1	115	0	115
9	King & Shastan	Banks, Discount		115	115	-1	115	0	115
10	Tibbet & Britton	Transport		115	115	-1	115	0	115
11	Shell (aa)	Oil/Gas		115	115	-1	115	0	115
12	Apperence Hidge	Foods		115	115	-1	115	0	115
13	Clarke Nichols	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
14	Zetters Gp	Leisure		115	115	-1	115	0	115
15	Baker Harris	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
16	Forminsters	Drugs, Stores		115	115	-1	115	0	115
17	Decent Ridge	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
18	Wadding	Industrials E-K		115	115	-1	115	0	115
19	Phone-Me	Industrials E-K		115	115	-1	115	0	115
20	Brown (N)	Drapery, Stores		115	115	-1	115	0	115
21	Sentron	Electricals		115	115	-1	115	0	115
22	Ct Western Gas	Oil/Gas		115	115	-1	115	0	115
23	Sovereign	Oil/Gas		115	115	-1	115	0	115
24	Rosedale	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
25	Holme	Industrials E-K		115	115	-1	115	0	115
26	Power Corp	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
27	Pifco	Electricals		115	115	-1	115	0	115
28	Vickers	Industrials S-Z		115	115	-1	115	0	115
29	Fitch-RS	Paper, Print, Adv		115	115	-1	115	0	115
30	Gregson	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
31	Charter Cons	Industrials A-D		115	115	-1	115	0	115
32	Davy	Industrials A-D		115	115	-1	115	0	115
33	Park Foods	Foods		115	115	-1	115	0	115
34	Stellaw	Industrials S-Z		115	115	-1	115	0	115
35	Westen	Industrials S-Z		115	115	-1	115	0	115
36	Diacon Grp (aa)	Drapery, Stores		115	115	-1	115	0	115
37	NSM	Building, Roads		115	115	-1	115	0	115
38	TT (aa)	Industrials S-Z		115	115	-1	115	0	115
39	Gt Portland	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
40	Lister	Textiles		115	115	-1	115	0	115
41	Hoddes	Industrials E-K		115	115	-1	115	0	115
42	Havelock Europe	Industrials E-K		115	115	-1	115	0	115
43	Branson	Property		115	115	-1	115	0	115
44	Gold Pet	Oils/Gas		115	115	-1	115	0	115
45	GT Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total		115	115	-1	115	0	115

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	Total

Three winners shared the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr James Johnson, of Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire, Mr Peter Hasler, of central London, and Mrs A Preese, of Bournemouth, Dorset, each receive £566.66.

BRITISH FUNDS

No.	Fund	Code	Open	Close	Yield	Per cent
1	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
2	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
3	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
4	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
5	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
6	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
7	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
8	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
9	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
10	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
11	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
12	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
13	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
14	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
15	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
16	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
17	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
18	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
19	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
20	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
21	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
22	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
23	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
24	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
25	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
26	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
27	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
28	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
29	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
30	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
31	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
32	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
33	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
34	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
35	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
36	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
37	Short Term Fund	STF	115.00	115.00	1.00	0.83
38	Short Term Fund	STF</				

Cash flow need behind launch at Laurentian

By BARBARA ELLIS

TIRES are hard for unit trust companies. Price listings show that many trusts are now quoting on a "bid" basis, meaning that their prices are based on the lower end of their permitted range and generally reflecting that more investors are selling than buying.

The trusts also face the prospect of their funds under management dwindling as insurance companies seek to minimise their tax bills by switching from units into direct holdings of shares.

Regular injections of cash become the unit managers' ideal in circumstances like these and Daniel Godfrey of Laurentian Unit Trust Management acknowledges that cash flow was a substantial part of his group's motivation in launching its Capital Transfer Account this week.

Laurentian's account takes a minimum investment of £1,000 into the group's cash trust, which has no initial charge, but an annual management fee of 0.4 per cent.

Each month, one-twelfth of the amount in the cash trust is transferred into one of the group's eight trusts, which range in size from the £5 million American Undervalued Assets Trust to the £16 million European Undervalued Assets Trust.

The £1,000 minimum is twice Laurentian's normal level for initial investments

and one-twelfth of that, or £83.33, is just over three times the £25 the group usually accepts in regular monthly investments.

Mr Godfrey explained that the higher levels had been set because of the extra work involved: "A minimum of £500 would have cost us money. Administratively we couldn't run it," he said.

However, Mr Godfrey conceded that there was nothing to stop investors putting just £500 into the cash trust and feeding £25 a month into another trust, though they would have to remember to instruct the group each time.

He said, though, that the group would accept a series of post-dated instructions.

Investors who review past performance at Laurentian will find a mixed picture. The group's Growth Trust has shown a rise of 267 per cent over the past five years.

But in the last year, its Japanese Undervalued Assets Trust has dropped by 12.2 per cent and the Undervalued Assets Trust by 2.4 per cent. Since January this year, the American Undervalued Assets Trust has fallen by 15.4 per cent, ranking 116th out of 132 funds.

Laurentian's launch coincided with the withdrawal from the market of a similar scheme, the Capital Investment Account, which channelled money from a Cheltenham & Gloucester building society account into Mercury unit trusts. Launched in February 1988, the C&G/Mercury account had attracted 1,200 investors with less than £5 million.

The interest rate on the building society account was laterly an uncompetitive 8.16 per cent, against the expected net yield on Laurentian's cash trust of 10.7 per cent.

A C&G spokeswoman said that the account had been very costly to administer and as part of its simple, focused approach, the society had decided to drop it. However, as the agreements ran for two years, some investors may hold the account until 1991.

THAT private investors buy at the top of the stock market and sell at the bottom is a sad but true City cliché.

One of the best ways to avoid the problem is to put a regular amount in a unit trust or investment trust each month.

A regular savings plan has two merits. It removes the problems of when to invest and through a device called "pound cost averaging," it ensures that shares or units are bought cheaply.

Roger Jennings, marketing director of unit trust manager M&G Securities, said: "We are very keen on regular savings plans and we think they are very useful for the investor."

"Pound cost averaging" results in shares or units being bought at below the average stock market price something which requires good judgement and luck if investing money in a lump sum.

If a regular sum is invested each month, obviously more securities are bought when the price is low than when it is high. So, the average price paid is lower than the average price of the unit or share over the existence of the saving plan.

Nicholas Prowse, a director at Fleming Investment Trust Management, thinks investment through regular savings plans reduces the risk of equity investment.

The 1990 sales figures for Flemings' Investment Trusts Savings Plan illustrate the

foolishness of most investors. While this savings plan is designed to take both one-off lump sum investments and regular savings, sales fluctuate widely to follow the latest fashions.

More than £2 million was invested during January, as investors moved in after a British stock market rally over Christmas and the New Year.

Since then, sales have dropped to £500,000 a month.

Mr Prowse said: "Time after time we are seeing people who are only buying because they see that equities have gone up. Their confidence gets shattered when they go down and they often sell." Accord-

Rupert Bruce outlines the merits of regular saving

Trusting in a little but often

The Fleming method depends, of course, on knowing when to pull the handle



personal equity plan (pep) savings scheme, which has all the advantages of the normal one, and also allows an investment of up to £3,000 a year free of all tax. The disadvantage is it can only be used to invest in six of M&G's 26 unit trusts.

Those with 50 per cent or more of the fund invested overseas cannot be sheltered by the pep tax umbrella.

Fleming's charges are even lower than M&G's. The investment trust manager takes 1 per cent when an investment is made and charges operating expenses to the trust.

Fleming also has a pep. It takes 1.5 per cent when an investment is made and charges an additional 1.75 per cent stockbroking commission. In its case, only four of the 12 investment trusts are eligible under the 50 per cent rule.

Mr Prowse regards the Fleming investment trusts savings scheme as an ideal vehicle for someone saving for a specific purpose. He thinks it is a good way to save for retirement, or perhaps to buy a car for a child's 18th birthday.

But while regular saving removes the problem of when to invest, it leaves that of when to sell.

Mr Jennings said: "The one thing you have to keep your eye out for is to sell when the market is high. You should wait until the newspapers are saying it is high."

These charges apply to the unit trust manager's monthly savings plan as well as its

world crashed on Black Monday that October.

M&G has carried on marketing through bombing and bottoming stock markets, while other groups step up and cut back on marketing accordingly. As a result, Mr Jennings has not witnessed investors buying at market peaks and selling in troughs.

It also has lower charges than many unit trust groups. Five percent of an investment is taken as an initial charge and a further one per cent is taken in annual management charges.

Mr Jennings said: "The one thing you have to keep your eye out for is to sell when the market is high. You should wait until the newspapers are saying it is high."

Skipton top in the big league

By RODNEY HOBSON

SKIPTON Building Society has leapt to the top of the building societies' investment rate table for large investors. It has created a new interest band of 12.75 per cent for deposits of more than £50,000 in its Sovereign Shares Account.

Interest paid in other bands is also raised: to 1.1 per cent for £10,000-£49,999; 10.8 per cent for £5,000-£9,999 and 10.3 per cent for £500-£4,999.

It is also raising the interest rate on its "Ninety Plus Account, which requires 90 days' notice for withdrawals. Deposits of £50,000 earn 12.9 per cent, while those from £25,000 to £49,999 earn 12 per cent, and £500 to £2,499, 11.55 per cent.

Skipton's claim that its top rate was half a per cent above its nearest building society rival for an account giving instant access was quickly countered by the Stroud and Swindon Building Society. Anxious to put controversy surrounding its merger with the Frome Selwood society behind it, Stroud has a Celebration Account paying 12.5 per cent on £40,000 or over and 12.25 per cent up to £39,999. The minimum investment is £20,000 and the maximum withdrawal £5,000.

Figures collated by Sue Thomas at the *Moneyguides* newsletter, based at Ratcliffe, Suffolk, show that the Skipton and Stroud rates on instant-access accounts put it ahead of other big players. Cheltenham & Gloucester offers 12.25 per cent with a minimum investment of only £2,500 and Chelsea's Classic carries 11.75 per cent.

Skipton is also out of top of the table for accounts requiring two or three months' notice of withdrawal, according to *Moneyguides*. National Counties pays 12.75 per cent and St Pancras pays 11.5 per cent on a monthly basis, equivalent to 12.32 per cent on an annual basis.

Birmingham Midshires and Leeds & Holbeck run to 12.25 per cent.

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By RODNEY H

AFTER David Rudd's cheque for £312,000 had been deducted from his account, although he was involved, he objects to the fact that a foreclosed house caused him to suffer through no fault of his own.

Mr Rudd issued it to a friend who left. The friend cashed the cheque in favour of the bank, paying him and understood, all charges.

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Travel agents put holidaymakers in danger of packing the wrong policy

Sara McConnell discovers that high rates of commission are leaving the last-minute traveller with inadequate insurance cover

PEOPLE going on last-minute package holidays are unlikely to put travel insurance at the top of their list of priorities, but taking out the first policy offered could prove a costly mistake should there be a claim.

Commission on insurance sales is an important source of income for travel agents. They can earn between 35 and 40 per cent commission on each policy and are often more interested in their fees than selling the holidaymaker the most suitable cover.

"The last-minute purchaser is a problem area. They think, let's zip off to Greece, we don't have a lot of spending money and we don't want to waste it on insurance," said Mark Roy, director of the Association of Travel Consumers.

"Travel agents try to sell last-minute travellers their own policy and often these policies are inadequate. High commission levels push the premium up and make it a disincentive to purchase travel insurance."

It is especially important to check the small print on policies sold by travel agents

rather than tour operators. Such policies are often more tightly worded, and the limits on specific items may be lower. The cover is lower because this allows the insurance companies to pay larger commissions to travel agents to encourage them to sell policies without raising the cost of premiums.

But selling for lower cover can be costly, especially when claiming for lost luggage or medical care: the most common problem areas.

Peter Hayman, director of Hayman Jackson, a specialist travel broker, said the difference in cover varied dramatically.

"It is important to check the cover. Travel agents' policies are not dissimilar to tour operators' policies but they often have to cut corners.

"For example, one policy only provides £500 worth of baggage cover. This is only suitable for backpacking and you need at least £1,000 worth."

Holidaymakers claiming on any part of the policy will often have to pay higher excesses before they stand to



make any money out of their insurance. For example, Accident & General, the insurer endorsed by the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta), has an excess of £100 on its TravelGuard family medical cover world-wide, even if only one member of the family is taken ill. A more usual excess would be £35 per person.

Claims for expensive pieces of equipment like video cameras and jewellery will not usually be treated sympathetically, as travel insurers think these should be covered by a home contents policy.

Travel agents are often paid more for return for selling a large number of policies for just one insurer. MKC and Extrasure, both travel insurers, operate this policy, and travel agents selling MKC's policies would earn about 42 per cent for selling a certain number of policies rather than

the usual 40 per cent. It is much less financially attractive for travel agents to sell a tour operator's own insurance, as they only earn commission of 10 or 12 per cent on each policy.

The Abta code forbids tour operators from insisting on customers taking out the tour operator's insurance.

But they are fighting to keep what should be a captive audience with various selling

techniques that put the onus on the holidaymaker to opt out. Often the insurance premium is included in the amount of the deposit payable when people book their holidays. People who refuse the tour operator's insurance will still have to pay the full deposit and another premium on top for holiday insurance.

Tour operators like Thomson normally insist on seeing other insurance policies to check they provide adequate cover.

"Thomson is saying that agents cannot sell other insurance policies unless they have cover that is as good as their own, particularly on 24-hour emergency medical cover," said Val Bowley, director of Extrasure.

The wording of tour operators' policies can be more ambiguous, and again people should read the policy carefully. It is not safe to assume that an insurance company will always pay out even if cover is bought through a big-name tour operator.

According to the Association of Travel Consumers, one tour operator only provides £200,000 worth of medical cover for travel in America. A recent report in *Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine, puts the minimum necessary cover at £1,000.

Travel insurance should not be an afterthought, and people should not sign on the first dotted line.

Forget those tax returns at your peril

By Roy CANNON

THIS is the time of the year when income tax returns lie limp and unloved in bureaux and desks with unpaid bills and demands, awaiting the despairing moment when someone says: "I suppose I must deal with it."

In his last Budget speech Mr Lawson offered encouragement for the early advising of tax liability by simply arming the Inland Revenue with a yet bigger stick with which to chastise defaulters. Penalties for non-disclosure or late disclosure of tax liability were substantially increased by the Finance Act 1989.

Following this, on July 31 1989, the Inland Revenue pointed out, via a press release, that tax returns had to be sent in within 30 days of the date of the tax return or if later, by October 31 following the end of the tax year in which a gain arose.

It also stated that failure to do this would mean that the Inland Revenue could charge Section 88 interest on the unpaid tax. Section 88 of the Taxes Management Act 1970 is headed 'Interest on tax recovered to make good loss due to the taxpayer's fault'.

The circumstances causing this charge to interest to arise would be where the tax return sent late would show (1) new sources of income; (2) continuing sources of income where inadequate estimated assessments had been made and not appealed against; (3) capital gains.

Many people think that it is up to the Inland Revenue to send them a tax return to fill out and that until a tax return is received they do not have to take any action. This is not so, under the Taxes Acts there is an obligation for the taxpayer to notify liability whether or not a tax return is received.

If you feel you have a tax liability you ought to write to the tax office which issues your coding if you are in employment, otherwise you should write to your local tax office, keep a copy of your letter.

Many people feel confident

enough to fill out their own tax returns, but one slip can lead to months of lengthy correspondence. It is often worth employing the services of an accountant to make sure the return is filled out correctly, and to deal with any correspondence with the Revenue in an efficient and orderly way.

Solicitors are also good sources of advice, and the Citizens Advice Bureaux will have some tips for single parents or others worried about their tax return.

Although wives may not like it, they still have to tell their husbands of their taxable income and any capital gains transactions for the last year ending April 5 1990, as for that year the husband has the responsibility of notifying liability for both spouses.

Next year the responsibility will fall squarely on the married woman to deal with her own tax liability and she and her husband will be liable for any failure to declare the proper income.

Many years ago an inspector of taxes told me of a married woman who had called him regarding an interest she had not told her husband about. He said she had the best reason in the world for not telling her husband about the interest — she was saving up to leave him!

GOLD.

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SAVE & PROSPER
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

Churchill joins the battle for Britain's household cover

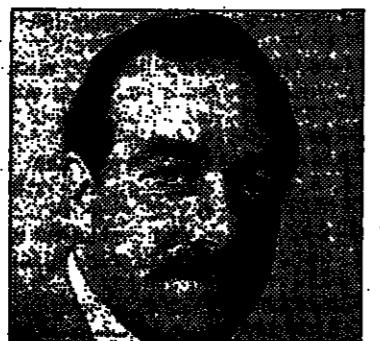
By BARBARA ELLIS

CHURCHILL Insurance, the direct marketing arm of Switzerland's Winterthur Insurance, is to extend its British operation to household insurance.

The 70,000 motorists who have bought cover from Churchill since it began operations last year will be the first target for the new service, which incorporates some unusual features.

Martin Long, the managing director, said his company will protect customers from under-insurance and the 'insult to injury' wranglings with loss adjusters that could entail:

"We won't scale you down," said



Long: extending UK operations
Mr Long: explaining that if a householder is insured for £10,000

and claims for a loss of £1,000, the payout could be cut to £300 if a loss adjuster decides that the total cover should have been for £20,000.

He estimates that more than one in twenty claims are reduced in this way.

Churchill's solution will be to recommend a level of cover, based on such factors as the property's post code and number of rooms in a house.

Although the price will be based on that level, said Mr Long, all policies will in fact provide £30,000 worth of cover, so that nobody will be under-insured.

He considers that this is better

than simply telling customers that all policies are for £30,000, as he feels most people will react by saying that the contents of their houses are worth far less.

"Most people say their contents are valued between £10,000 and £20,000 — the vast majority of policies seem to be for £16,000," he said.

Churchill is to offer no-claims bonuses on its household policies, with discounts rising from 10 per cent to a maximum of 20 per cent over three years.

The company will accept evidence of a clean claims record from previous insurers as counting to

towards its discounts. Competitive, rather than the cheapest in the market, according to Mr Long, Churchill is aiming to attract customers away from building societies.

As an incentive, it is offering to pay any swap-over fees charged by the societies when customers make the move.

These could amount to between £15 and £25.

Mr Long attacked the building societies for charging commissions on insurance ranging from 40p to 55p in the pound.

But he had to admit "as insurers, we keep the whole pound".

Cheque fee blamed on action of overseas bank

By RODNEY HOBSON

AFTER David Rudd issued a cheque for £312 he found £317 had been deducted from his account. Although only £5 was involved, he objects on principle to the fact that the actions of a foreign bank caused him to suffer a charge through no fault of his own.

Mr Rudd issued the cheque to a friend who lives abroad. The friend endorsed the cheque in favour of his foreign bank, paying, he and Mr Rudd understood, all charges.

But the cheque came back to Britain via Barclay's International, which charged £5 for clearance. That charge was passed to the Barclay's branch where Mr Rudd has his account and the cheque, plus the £5 charge, were debited from his account.

The problem lay in the way that the foreign bank asked for payment. There are two methods, cash letter and collection.

Cash letter means that a bundle of sterling cheques are returned to this country together and are disseminated among the relevant British banks at this end. No charge is imposed on the person who issued the cheque.

Under collection, the foreign bank asks for the cheque to be cleared individually. It is likely to do so if it has any worries over clearance, since it will not know the financial position of the person issuing it. It is this method that incurs a charge.

In Mr Rudd's case he knew that the cheque would be cashed abroad, but says: "For all my bank knew, my friend might have received my



Charged up: David Rudd paid extra for cheque clearance

fortunate for the issuer of a cheque to be at the mercy of the recipient and his foreign bank, they point out that their costs are considerably higher than the £5 charge.

They say that where it is known that a cheque will be cashed abroad, it is cheaper to use a Eurocheque or arrange for a cheque to be issued in the local currency.

The worst thing is write a cheque out of a British cheque book in a foreign currency.

Barclays is by no means alone in adding a £5 charge for special clearance. Although bankers accept that it is un-

B&B offers premium price for endowments

BRADFORD & Bingley Building Society has launched a new service for endowment policyholders, who want to cash in their policies but are put off by low surrender values (writes Rodney Hobson).

The society expects to pay 10 to 30 per cent above surrender value by acting as intermediary for a specialist company that buys and sells policies. The exact sales value will vary from policy to policy.

To qualify for Bradford & Bingley scheme, policies must have a surrender value of more than £1,000, have run for at least a quarter of their term and have less than 15 years to maturity.

The service has been set up because nearly half of all endowment policies are surrendered before maturity.

In recent years, selling policies by auction to buyers willing to keep up the payments in return for the proceeds has become more widespread.

Some policies have sold for double their surrender value.

Mark Gerdes, head of savings at the B&B, said: "Surrendering a policy is often a last resort as most of the benefits of an endowment come at maturity.

"As people's financial circumstances change, the need for an endowment may diminish and they will want to realise as much as they can from it before maturity."

Details are available on a free helpline number: 0800 591115.

BRIEFINGS

■ ABOUT 700,000 Barclaycard customers, or one in twelve, have closed their accounts since April when Barclays announced an £8 fee and a lower interest rate. Nine out of ten cancellations were by people who did not take extended credit. However, Barclays says applications for its new MasterCard have topped 400,000 and new applications for Visa are averaging 30,000 a month.

■ This year's package for first-year students from National Westminster Bank, available from Monday, includes a cash gift of £20 and an interest-free overdraft of up to £300 provided it is agreed in advance. Interest, currently 6 per cent, will be paid on accounts in credit.

■ Interest is fixed at 12.9 per

cent for five years on a new endowment mortgage for first-time buyers with the TSB. The endowment policy does not have to be taken out through the bank. There is an arrangement of £150 and on July 31 1995, borrowers will have a choice of a further fixed term at the prevailing rate, or transferring to a variable rate.

■ Walthamstow Building Society members have voted overwhelmingly in favour of merging with the Cheltenham & Gloucester. Walthamstow investors will earn a bonus of 0.75 per cent when the merger takes effect on October 31.

■ A school fees planning service enabling parents to invest to cover future education costs has been launched by BDO Binder Hamlyn, the chartered accountants.

■ New borrowers at the Birmingham Midshires Build-

plus VAT to open an account and can buy and sell over the telephone. The minimum charge is £7.

■ Leeds Permanent Building Society is considering introducing direct debits, after 41 per cent of mortgage payers surveyed said they would use this method of payment if it was available.

■ A school fees planning service enabling parents to invest to cover future education costs has been launched by BDO Binder Hamlyn, the chartered accountants.

■ Diameter Stockbrokers of Guildford has a maximum dealing charge of £15 per transaction on its service for small, private shareholders. Clients are required to pay £10

EUROPE.

The success story continues.

The latter part of the '80s saw Europe move to the forefront of the world economic stage with the consequent spectacular growth in many of its stockmarkets.

The rapid changes in Eastern Europe, the 1992 harmonisation measures, German re-unification and progress towards monetary union mean that the European success story should continue into the '90s.

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WEEKEND MONEY

Antony Barnett with a cautionary tale for owners of large dogs

Watch out for man's best fiend

OWNERS of certain breeds of dogs could find themselves liable for large compensation claims if their dog attacks a third party or causes an accident, even though they have pet insurance.

Equine and Livestock, a leading animal insurer, has failed to state clearly in renewal notices that its policy now excludes certain breeds from its third party cover.

The notice merely points out that the "policy wording has been substantially updated and will be sent to you on your renewal, but a copy, in any event, is available prior to renewal, on request."

Jeff Bailey, a manager at Paul J Geoffrey Associates, an insurance broker, had Jason, his German shepherd, insured with Equine and Livestock for four years. When his renewal notice came through he signed it and sent off his payment.

When he read his policy he was surprised to discover halfway down page three that "Rottweiler, Doberman, Pit Bull, Staffordshire bull and German shepherd, whether full or part breed" are excluded from third party cover.

He said: "It is very worrying. Many people do not bother to read policy documents or try and just can't understand them. I decided to practise what I preach and read through the small print. I couldn't believe that Jason had effectively been uninsured for two months."

"I took out the policy primarily for the third party cover. Although Jason is well mannered, like any dog he can strike out in fear or chase a cat and run into the road." Mr Bailey cancelled his policy and obtained a pro rata refund on



Best behaviour — now: Jeff Bailey with Jason the German shepherd in docile mood

the remaining terms of his policy, but received no premiums down and improve our range of benefits. We can now offer cover dogs throughout their lifetime. We will refund fully from the inception date any premiums paid to those policyholders concerned."

Chris Griffin, Equine & Livestock's general manager, said: "There was publicity given to our decision at the time. Our renewal notice does bring to attention the fact that changes have been made and refers clients to the policy document." He added: "We made the decision to exclude certain breeds after analysing our claims. We found that over 58 per cent of our claims were from German shepherds."

"It has meant that we have been able to keep our premiums down and improve our range of benefits. We can now offer cover dogs throughout their lifetime. We will refund fully from the inception date any premiums paid to those policyholders concerned."

Such as Dog Breeders and Pet Plan do not operate third party breed exclusions. They refuse to insure the American pit bull at all on the grounds that it is not a breed recognised by the Kennel Club.

Douglas Simpson, the chairman of Pet Plan, said: "Taking out dog insurance is the sign of a responsible owner and we do not wish to penalise this."

Geoff Fox, the claims manager at Dog Breeders, commented that there has been an increase in the number of personal injury claims for certain breeds, but put this down to "media hype". He

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Geoff Fox, the claims manager at Dog Breeders, commented that there has been an increase in the number of personal injury claims for certain breeds, but put this down to "media hype". He

also disagrees with pointing the blame at specific breeds.

He said: "Of course, a bigger dog is likely to cause more damage purely because of its size. There may be more Alsatian attacks, but that is because they are such a popular breed. In my experience there is no evidence to back up claims that certain breeds are more likely to attack."

Mr Fox said some household policies do cover liability for domestic pets, but he warns dog owners to check carefully as compensation could turn out to be very costly. One case that he is dealing with at the moment is of a professional model who was bitten in the face.

She has been undergoing intensive plastic surgery and her face is permanently disfigured. She will never model again. The owner was deemed responsible and the claim is likely to be settled at £14,000.

But the most frequent third party claims are those where a dog runs in front of a moving vehicle.

If the vehicle happens to be an articulated lorry, and the driver swerves to miss the dog, then skids and crashes into a shop killing several people, it is understandable why there is concern that dog owners are not insured for third party liability.

One idea that has been mooted is that third party insurance for dogs should be compulsory for all owners, similar to motor insurance.

However, the government's reluctance to introduce a dog registration scheme means that it is unlikely this will ever come to pass. It remains up to individual owners or their brokers to keep on guard.

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**NATIONAL
SAVINGS**

The summer of 1988 was the turning point for the British housing market. The recession that followed was severe by post-war standards, but there are signs that the worst is over. The bottom will probably be seen later this year, and there will be a firm recovery in 1991.

As demand picks up, prices will start to rise again, but not until unsold stocks of houses are cleared, and certainly not at the inflated rates seen in 1987-88.

The recovery in the market is partly cyclical, and partly because we expect interest rates to be two or three percentage points lower by the end of next year. If interest rates do not fall, the recovery will be put off until 1992.

The current cycle in the housing market is fairly typical of the post-war period. Real house prices, the change in house prices in relation to the retail price index, have fallen by just as much in previous recessions. The market recovered strongly in the five years following the recession of 1974-75.

These boom/bust cycles in the housing market, although familiar, are not particularly helpful

either to our borrowers or to the British economy. If the authorities managed macro-economic and especially interest rate policy, in a more stable manner, then sharp swings in the market could be avoided, to everyone's advantage.

Looking to the medium term, prospects for owner-occupied housing are good. Despite the widely predicted "demographic downturn" in the number of 15 to 25-year-olds, there will actually be higher numbers of those aged 30 to 35, a prime age group for owner-occupation.

Home-ownership currently stands at 67 per cent, and we expect it to reach 75 per cent by the year 2000. Our prediction is based on the clear and explicit preferences of householders, particularly young people.

Most borrowers are concerned with today's very high level of mortgage rates, and want to know when they might fall.

Over the next one to two years,

MANY practical decisions affecting taxpayers stay off the public record, despite a mountain of tax legislation and a yearly finance bill to put the Budget into action. Even accounts can be left in the dark (writes Barbara Ellis).

Decisions by the appeal commissioners are the prime example. Results of appeals involving VAT are published, but the more numerous cases relating to income and capital gains taxes are not.

A finance bill proposal to start publishing all commissioners' decisions was dropped ten years ago, mainly on grounds of cost.

No news of what may be landmark judgments is left to filter gradually through to accountants, either in reports of private meetings between Inland Revenue officials and the Institute of Chartered Accountants or in letters to professional journals from people who have won complicated appeals.

"We are very much in the dark in quite large areas of tax," said Mavis Seymour, of Stoy Hayward. An accountant might read a case given favourable treatment, but could be unaware of two others on the same point given the opposite way.

Another largely unknown factor is the Inland Revenue's practical application of the tax law. Sometimes provisions can be completely overridden by what is known as an "extra-statutory concession".

"Concessions are designed

Hidden pitfalls created by the taxman's secret rulings

to cover minor anomalies at the margin of the tax code that it's not worth legislating about," said an Inland Revenue spokesman. "Taxpayers or practitioners might write to us or it might be a problem we pick up ourselves."

Judges have often expressed disapproval of this seemingly haphazard way of altering the law, by arrangement between ministers and the Revenue without reference to parliament. But their remarks have done nothing to stem the growth in concessions.

The latest Inland Revenue listings cover 212 extra-statutory concessions, 74 of them applying to individuals on matters of income tax and interest on tax. The wording of each publication of the Revenue's booklets sometimes brings substantial changes to tax practice.

On the last occasion, accountants spotted a change in the treatment of employees re-

ceiving free or subsidised meals. Previously, the practice had been not to charge employees on the benefit of free or subsidised meals in a staff canteen if the meals were "on a reasonable scale" and if all staff had access.

But the latest version of the concession also allows an alternative: for the employer to give free or subsidised meal vouchers to staff for whom meals are not provided.

The Revenue notes that this particular concession derives from a parliamentary statement in 1949 and formalises a practice "already substantially in the public domain".

One of the most frequently used concessions allows taxpayers to ignore temporary absences of up to a year in determining whether a property is their main residence for mortgage interest relief.

People sent abroad by their employers are allowed a temporary absence of up to four years and in the most recent

alteration to the concession Crown servants posted abroad can claim for the full duration of their posting.

But concessions are not applied as of right. "The concessions... are of general application, but it must be borne in mind that in a particular case there may be special circumstances which will require to be taken into account in considering the application of the concession," cautions the Revenue.

"A concession will not be given in any case where an attempt is made to use it for tax avoidance."

Ms Seymour said: "Avoidance is open to interpretation. You might have a case that seems very similar to a concession and the Revenue will say the motive for what you have done is tax."

Taxpayers would be unable to appeal against a decision to disallow a concession, as it does not involve a regulation or a point of law, she added.

An Inland Revenue spokesman said that tax offices were usually notified of concessions and should act on them, but that it would be "as well" for taxpayers to mention them. The snag is that not all concessions are published.

Accountants may often discover unpublished concessions by chance, when clients reveal special treatment granted by the Revenue to certain occupations. Many trade unions and professional associations have also negotiated unpublished special deals.

Fimbra's chief executive used his emergency powers to suspend Mr Cleveley from business the next day, and this week the suspension was extended indefinitely and made public.

Miss Monro said: "If somebody says we cannot look at their books, we take it very seriously."

"The main consequence of suspending Mr Cleveley is that it puts all the life companies and similar businesses on notice that they should not have any dealings with him."

"Mr Cleveley joined Fimbra in September 1988. He was in our B2 category until last December, when he went down to A2. The main differences are that B2 mem-

bers may handle clients' money and they can also manage broker bonds. Members in the A2 category may do neither of these things. They mainly sell life assurance, pension funds, and unit trusts."

Mr Cleveley has previously come into conflict with the authorities over the use of the title "insurance broker", a designation he has used on his headed notepaper, despite the fact that he is not registered with the Insurance Brokers Registration Council.

Ivor Daly, a pensioner from North Wales, invested through Mr Cleveley in Scottish Mutual unit trusts.

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Mr Cleveley is also currently embroiled in a legal battle with a client.

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WEEKEND MONEY

Beating Sainsbury – the greatest game of them all

By CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS PROFILE
Sir Ian MacLaurin

SIR Ian MacLaurin, the chairman of Tesco, aged 53, was absent from its Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, head office for six weeks in February. He was having his hip joint replaced with a man-made substitute. Just like the Bionic Man, he can be rebuilt.

Once again free from the debilitating pain that had grown to plague him, he is now as near to a perfect human being as you are ever likely to find. As if by some extra-terrestrial design.

Tall, slender, handsome and permanently suntanned, he attends church at least once a fortnight and was once a choir boy. He has a golf handicap of nine. In his youth he played cricket and football. For three years he was a member of Kent's second XI – "And then for Herts and the Minor Counties". He played football for Chelsea.

If the remuneration had been better he would, he says, have loved to have been a professional sportsman. But, at the age of 22 he swapped sport for business and perhaps predictably, given the benefit of hindsight, those same finely-honed competitive instincts have led him into the most challenging and serious sport of them all. The multi-billion pound inter-board room battle between Tesco and arch-rival Sainsbury, to be top of the league in the food retailing industry.

When he speaks about management, he speaks only about "team-work". "Since I've been chairman, we've never taken a vote about anything," he boasts. "We just talk it all through, with lots of strong opinions being expressed, and in the end it becomes obvious which is the best way forward."

"We are very competitive, but we don't let it affect our personal relationships. We have a mutual respect." He meets Lord Sainsbury often at functions. But, they never invite each other to dinner.

"On his relationship with Cohen, he admits they "fought like cat and dog", but adds, "I always felt close to him, we respected each other enormously – I probably shouldn't say this but I think I was perhaps the son he never had."

But for a protégé, he can see Cohen's feet of clay with sur-

prise. In Blackheath, he was, he says, closer to his Welsh mother – "She was more like me, very cool and placid." And she was horrified when he accepted the offer. "They had sent me to Malvern College, Worcester, where I spent a lot of money on my education and she was against that I should want to join a company like that."

That Tesco signs now all but buried, both of MacLaurin's daughters, Fiona and Gillian, work for the firm, although his son Neil has followed in his sporting footsteps, playing cricket for Middlesex, and now works sports promotion instead.

MacLaurin's first job at Tesco was loading lorries in the warehouse. "I then managed stores, groups of stores. I bought meat, fruit and vegetables in Covent Garden, went through the whole of the business in four or five years."

On his relationship with Cohen, he admits they "fought like cat and dog", but adds, "I always felt close to him, we respected each other enormously – I probably shouldn't say this but I think I was perhaps the son he never had."

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'Since I've been chairman, we've never taken a vote about anything, we just talk it all through, with lots of strong opinions being expressed, and in the end it becomes obvious which is the best way forward.'

are there. We are all professional business people. Sainsbury is very much a family company still. We're as different as chalk and cheese."

MacLaurin has already gone down in history as Cohen's first ever management trainee. Since taking over as chairman from his predecessor, Sir Leslie Porter – husband of the Westminster Council leader who, in turn, is Cohen's daughter – he can also lay claim to being both the first non-family member and first gentle to reach the top.

It was a chance meeting with "Cohen" in the Grand Hotel at Eastbourne 32 years ago that led MacLaurin into this unlikely career. A ten-day cricket tour in the south coast town coincided with Cohen's annual holiday there. "We used to dress for dinner every night," Jack was quite taken by these young chaps in dinner jackets. He came and introduced himself, bought us drinks and gave us all his card. He said to us all, "If any of you fellows ever want a job come and see me." MacLaurin, already employed as a trainee engineer, was the only one to take Cohen at his word.

He describes himself as a retailer too. "I have a gut feel about retailing, but I'm much more disciplined than Jack was. He was able to take decisions and if they didn't work it really didn't matter. But you're not playing around with a few thousand pounds anymore."

The days when Tesco lived "by the seat of its pants" are long gone. "I don't think there's anybody in our business who is as well researched as we are. Or who goes to the lengths that we do to make sure that the quality of the product that we are giving the customer is as it is." Not even Marks and Spencer.

MacLaurin describes his management style as relaxed. "There's no side to people here, we are all on Christian name terms, my office door is always open." Every Tuesday and Friday, almost without fail, he tours Tesco's stores. "I go round with our executives and I talk to the customers and the managers. That's where the action is." On Saturdays he goes out alone, and pushes a trolley round one of the three Tesco stores near his Hertfordshire home.

"He's like a man who's bought himself a new suit," says a company chairman, who has known him for years.

"It doesn't quite fit yet. He's got to grow into it, but he will."

His decision was not taken without familial opposition. The son of a Scottish civil servant, and brought up

"He hasn't put a foot wrong," said one City analyst. "The business is very strong indeed," MacLaurin agrees, "probably one of the finest retail businesses you'll find anywhere."

In the past six months he has become overtly bullish about Tesco, his inbuilt caution blowing in the wind, and people have started to notice that too. When he talks about Sainsbury he tries to sound indifferent. "If we don't overtly take them, then so be it." But clever sportsmen always underplay their hand. Golfers who know him are convinced that his handicap is less than nine. "He always plays to

Knee-high by the fourth of July

CAPITAL CITY

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES



Where there's trash there's cash
target is for a quarter of its rubbish to go
for recycling by 1995.

HOBOS rummaging through Los Angeles' public refuse bins are among a rare group of people actually making a profit from a three-year campaign to recycle rubbish and save LA County from an impending disaster forecast within two years.

The homeless, jobless and destitute seek the aluminum, glass and plastic fizzy drink containers on which the state of California, through the local supermarkets, will refund a few cents on each item as part of the recycling campaign started in 1987. For many who take the bottle back it represents a regular income and a profit, given they did not lay out any money for the original drink.

The well-organized collect cans in a wire supermarket trolley which they wheel from one litter bin to another, guarding the contents with zeal. Aluminum cans are the most favoured item, fetching 2 cents each, or 93 cents for a pound in weight. Some beer bottles can be worth 10 cents each. Newspapers are worth only half a cent a pound.

But few others in the recycling industry are making a cent. A spokesman for a supermarket group which operates 23 recycling points said: "At the moment this is not cost-effective. We're trying to reduce the cost by installing automatic reverse vending machines. We've found few people are making any profit at this."

Others who collect the rubbish, which is to be used again, said the recycling markets are still much too volatile. One commented: "Some weeks the glass industry wants all you've got and then during others it doesn't want anything." Los Angeles is currently recycling 10,000 tons of rubbish a day, which according to experts, is still not enough. LA County's

will begin to gather pace in two months when the city's six-month-old special recycling unit starts a \$20 million scheme for kerbside collection of paper, bottles, glass and metal from the 720,000 households in the inner city.

However, this is unlikely to prove a swift panacea to the county-wide problem, or its own. The cramped city of Los Angeles has nowhere to park new trucks designed to collect the recyclable rubbish. Its fleet of 700 trucks has only one car park, which means the new recycling programme will have to be phased in as soon as there is space to accommodate the trucks. As a result, it will take Los Angeles three years to deliver 720,000 bright yellow plastic crates (25 per cent of the material is recycled plastic) to 720,000 households for their recyclable waste.

According to today's estimates, at the current rate of progress, Los Angeles will be knee-deep in rubbish before the city has time to deliver the final 200,000 crates. Mr William George, the recycling co-ordinator for Los Angeles County, said: "We're in a crisis. The planning process for landfill schemes takes between two and three years because of the public opposition. Permits for many of our existing landfills expire in two years.

"Even if we get 25 per cent recycling by 1995, we still have to throw away 45,000 tons of rubbish on landfills which are already close to capacity. It's like a man jumping from a building – as he passes the windows of those in the administrative offices they see him for a split second and then he's gone. But those of us outside can see the whole picture of the ground rushing up to him. And that's how we feel – at the moment the ground, deep in garbage, is rushing up," he said.



Ever the sportsman: Sir Ian and Lady MacLaurin practise golf in the garden of their Hertfordshire home

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When 'H' stands for highway robbery

Thousands of people took to the roads this week with their new H-registration cars but, Vince McCullough explains, they have paid dearly for the privilege

BRITISH motorists often receive rather a raw deal from car makers and salesmen.

They pay more for their cars than similar models sold elsewhere in the European community and are frequently overcharged on delivery costs.

Which? magazine found that these charges ranged from £1.25 for a Montego 2.0 DL to £25 for a Mitsubishi Shogun. A Mr Brown from Glasgow was even quoted £700 delivery for a Nissan Micra.

Most drivers do not care because they are among the 62 per cent who have company cars. Few of the rest can be bothered to haggle with dealers or shop around in Britain and the rest of Europe. Yet, if a buyer takes the time and trouble, he or she can save up to a third in other EC countries.

Britons purchasing a car abroad do not have to pay tax in the country of origin. Instead they face a double bill on their return, paying car tax (10 per cent of five-sixths of the price) and VAT. But good savings are there to be made.

The European Community is moving towards a single market in goods and services by 1992, which means that buying or hiring a car should cost about the same in Manchester or Munich. There is an EC rule that net prices for cars in community countries should not differ by more than 12 per cent, but it is often flouted.

A recent report by the European Bureau of Consumer Organisations (BEC) found that an MG Metro, which could be bought in Belgium (an officially unrestricted country) for £5,476 (including tax and vat), cost £7,610 in Britain, with delivery charges extra. Move up the range and the differential is even greater.

Buy a Citroen CX 22 TRS in Bradford instead of Brussels and it will cost £2,115 more at £17,020. The average difference in car prices between Belgium and Britain was 31 per cent; the pre-tax price of cars in Britain was on average 61 per cent higher than in Denmark.

Why do the British pay too much? Apart from their own laziness, makers try to keep national markets apart, sustaining large price differences, and do all they can to prevent shopping around Europe for the best deal. This is understandable when prices have been traditionally high in Britain, partly due to high company-car ownership, unlike most member states. Like lawyers and accountants, makers charge what they think the market will bear and the government does not want to lose any of the annual £4.4 billion from car tax and VAT.

On top of that, different tax regimes distort prices. For example, in Denmark the taxman's cut on the price of a new car is 110 per

cent, so makers keep the pre-tax price as low as possible. Much is made by some makers of different technical standards but most are very slight.

Although an imported car must meet all the criteria to obtain a national type approval (NTA) certification, find the right dealer abroad and he should be able to supply a car to British specifications. Indeed, under EC law any dealer who supplies a left-hand drive car must be free to order a right-hand drive (to British specifications) from the maker.

There are companies which offer to import cars for you, although the buyer has to collect the vehicle. But there can be problems. Take the case of Edward Cheasman, a company secretary of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Responding to an advertisement in *The Sunday Times*, he ordered a Honda Accord. It seemed a bargain at £9,318 (including £340 extra for a sunroof, a £2,000 saving on the British price). He paid a 15 per cent deposit of £1,397 and was quoted a delivery date "in excess of 12 weeks".

It certainly was. After six months and constant phone calls and letters of complaint, Mr Cheasman still did not have his car. In between, the company cheekily offered him his Honda at a higher price — £2,000 more. Mr Cheasman contacted his lawyer and the company agreed to refund his deposit less 25 per cent.

Importing agencies are not regulated and are difficult to check. If you are unsure, do it yourself. Perhaps the most difficult part is finding a continental dealer willing or able to sell. Forget about approaching British makers, most will attempt to dissuade you. One prospective importer was told that due to import duties, the cost would be more than in Britain. In fact, there is no such duty on cars.

Carmakers should, however, be able to supply lists of European dealers. The Automobile Association[®] also offers a service for car importers and provides names, addresses and telephone numbers of continental dealers (and, if needed, will help with the import paperwork). And the Consumers' Association[®] publishes an importer's action pack.

A prospective buyer will need patience. Pick up the telephone and be prepared for any number of excuses why you cannot have the car of your choice. That is what happened to Roger Guillebaud, a chartered accountant from Drewsteignton near Exeter. He wanted a right-hand drive Subaru 1800. "C'est impossible," said Belgian dealers. Most Danish dealers, too, were unwilling or unable to help. Mr Guillebaud finally settled on the only car on offer — a left-hand drive from a Danish dealer.



Love at second sight: Nicky Short and Bob Lomas with their Opel Corsa on which they saved £1,400 by importing from Belgium

Although not the car he wanted, it saved him £3,500 on the right-hand drive equivalent in Britain.

Companies which refuse to supply a right-hand drive vehicle are acting illegally. Likewise dealers who say a right-hand drive will cost the same as a British-bought car. It should cost the same as a left-hand drive in the country of purchase. Some dealers will claim the maker will not honour guar-

the AA listings, they contacted Ford dealers in Holland, Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg.

The dealers either refused, quoted a year's delivery or pretended to have language problems after answering the telephone in impeccable English. "Sorry," said one in Antwerp. "Love to do business but Ford won't supply right-hand drive cars."

Giving up the hunt for a new

asking price was BF350,000. Without too much problem, a price of BF30,000 was negotiated free of Belgium's 25 per cent

tax — £5,156 at the then exchange rate, but £5,690 at the rate 12 weeks later when they took delivery.

That included tinted glass and central locking, standard on the Nova but not on the Corsa, alloy wheels and a sunroof as extras, without which the price would have been £454 cheaper.

There are a number of important lessons here. First, don't worry too much about the exchange rate "loss" between order and delivery unless financing the purchase from savings. That way you can convert into Belgian francs immediately and so eliminate any adverse exchange-rate shifts, while losing only the interest on the savings used.

Second, the delivery time is no longer than a buyer in Britain who wanted extras could expect. Third, most continental dealers expect haggling. Don't be afraid to offer less than the asking price. The firm asked for a Eurocheque for 15 per cent of the price, which would not be cashed if the deal was completed. The cheque was returned when the car was picked up. Mr Provost also arranged insurance in Belgium for the drive to the ferry, advised on British customs formalities and even how to exchange the Dutch warranty, log book and service manual for English ones. Vauxhall exchanged them and issued type approval certification by return of post.

Taking into account all costs,

including the two trips to Belgium, car tax and VAT paid to British customs, the bill was just under £7,000, compared with an on-the-road price in Britain of £8,400. This saved 17 per cent, or 22 per cent without the extras.

Miss Short paid for the car

partly using savings and took out a loan from Barclays for the rest, repayable over three years at an APR of 21.6 per cent.

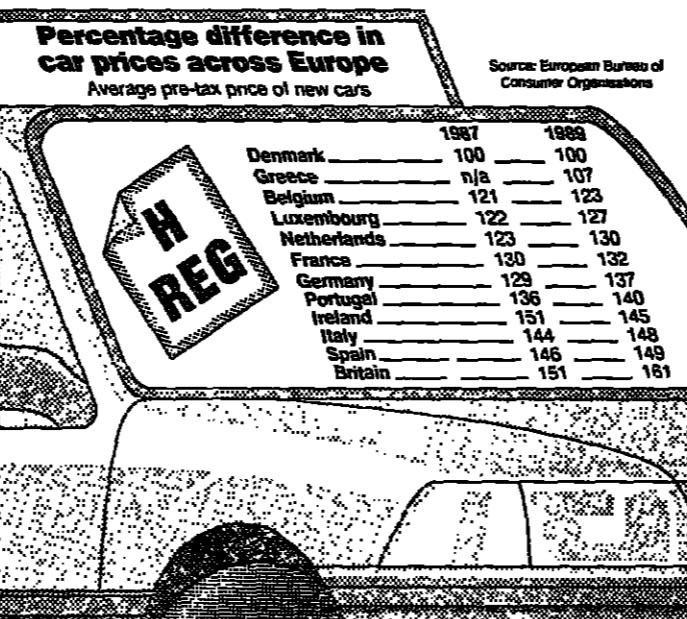
But if you cannot be bothered with buying a car abroad there are large discounts to be had in Britain. A recent survey by *Which?* found a dealer offering a Nissan Sunny for £1,933 less than the list price of £7,420. That was exceptional. Most discounts were about 12 per cent if the bill was met with a banker's draft.

Whether buying in Britain or Belgium, it is worth thinking about financing. The cheapest way is to use your savings. Had Miss Short done this and replaced her savings over three years, it would have cost her just under £1,000 in lost interest, whereas a loan for the full amount at 21 per cent, the cheapest, would have cost £2,300 in interest with repayments spread over three years.

Were Nicky Short and Bob Lomas just fortunate in their choice of car and dealer? Maybe. But British carmakers are coming under increasing pressure to mend their ways when Britons want to import cars from Europe.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, is investigating the European car market and allegations of breaches of EC law, including refusal to supply cars for export to Britain, threatening European dealers into not doing business with Britons by removing their franchise, and obstructing the issue of NTA-approval. BEUC has sent a copy of its report to Sir Leon and the Monopolies Commission, which is investigating British carmakers.

"AA Imports/Exports Section, Fanum House, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2EA. **Which? Action Pack: Importing a Car (£7.95), Which? PO Box 44, Herford SG14 1SH.



Fiesta, they decided to seek their second choice, a Vauxhall Nova SR 1.4, which is sold in Europe as the Opel Corsa 1.4 GT.

At Ostend, the first port of call, the couple met Peter Provost, a dealer for Isuzu as well as GM. He told them an Opel Corsa to British specifications would not be a problem. Furthermore, everything could have been done by telephone and letter.

To make sure, Mr Lomas went to Ostend in August 1989. The

last autumn, with the help of

agents or warranties in Britain. This is against the law but long delivery times, often used to put off buyers, are not.

Such obstacles are not insurmountable. Nicky Short, a 24-year-old interior designer from Luton, Bedfordshire, saved 20 per cent on the cost of her new car. Miss Short and Bob Lomas, her boyfriend, decided to buy a new Fiesta in Europe rather than a second-hand one in Britain.

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